



# AGAWAM

## Advertiser News

CAR-RT SORT\*\*\* C011  
Agawam Public Library  
750 Cooper St  
Agawam MA 01001-2177

Volume XXII Number 9

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

March 4, 1999

## Council Approves Historical Grant Application

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

On Monday night, Town Council gave a unanimous stamp of approval for the Historical Commission to apply for grant funding that would lead to the nomination of Agawam Center as a National Register Historic District.

In supporting the grant application, Town Council has agreed to dedicate \$10,000 to pay for a historical consultant to complete the necessary research and documentation for nominating Agawam Center as a national historic district. If the grant is approved, the town will be responsible for \$4,000 and the state will reimburse the town for the remaining \$6,000.

Described as a "critical grant application" in a memo sent to the council by Mayor Christopher C. Johnson, the grant is a second attempt by the Historical Commission to obtain funding to hire a professional historian for the purpose of applying for the federal designation. An earlier grant application was denied by a different state program.

"This is an important step to move us forward in preserving the historic charm of the town," Johnson said. "I think it's important to establish a National Register Historic District on Main Street because it is one of the last areas of historic significance that hasn't been greatly affected by commercial development."

If Agawam Center is designated as a national historic district, both the town and the property owners would become eligible to apply for federal historic preservation grants, Johnson said.

Director of Planning and Community Development Deborah S. Dachos said Agawam Center meets the requirements for designation as a national historic district with structures dating back to the 1700's that represent Federal, Greek Revival, Georgian, Italianate, Queen Anne, and Tudor architecture.

### Will Require Review Process

According to Ms. Dachos, designation as a national historic district will not place restrictions on the property owners, but it will require a review process before public funds can be spent on projects such as widening Main Street.

"When public funds are used in a national historic district, there is a process that creates a red flag to review the project," Ms. Dachos said. "But, it won't affect homeowners' ability to paint or even tear down a structure."

The area being proposed as a national historic district encompasses Main Street from the Captain Leonard House to Adams Street, extending west on Elm Street as far as the old mill.

"The Historical Commission has done a tremendous amount of work in pursuing the district and has already received the approval of the Massachusetts Historical Commission," Johnson said.

Most people who live here can easily identify several landmarks at Agawam Center. The Elm Street Fire station. Captain Charles Leonard House. The Old Center Library. Phelps School and Veterans' Green (where the bell from the oldest school in Agawam has been preserved).

GRANT APPLICATION - from Page 1...

## UNICO Donates Printer To AHS...



AGAWAM UNICO recently donated a printer to the Language Writing Lab being developed by Carla Lemnah Warner at Agawam High School. At UNICO's February meeting at Alexander's Restaurant in Feeding Hills, Warner (center of photo) gave a brief presentation about the Language Writing Lab. Also present at the meeting were UNICO members (from left to right) Bob Rossi, Dennis Marchetto, Mike Fazio, and Dave D'Agostino. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

### Bitzas Is Sole Supporter Of Resolution...

## Council Shoots Down Measure Opposing Casino Gambling In MA

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

At Monday night's meeting, Town Council turned an emphatic thumbs down on an attempt to rekindle the fight against casino gambling by voting 7-1 against a resolution stating the council's resolve to oppose the legalization of casino gambling in the state and urging the governor and state legislators to do the same.

Councilor George Bitzas, who sponsored the resolution, cast the only vote in favor. Against were Council President Donald Rheault, Council Vice President Robert Magovern, and Councilors Dennis Perry, Gina Letellier, Gary Geiger, Edward Caba, and John Negrucci.

Councilors Nancy Thompson, Jill Simpson, and Robert Young were absent.

Citing news accounts of a renewed interest in legalizing casino gambling on the part of Governor Paul Cellucci and some state legislators, and reports that House Speaker Thomas Finneran may reconsider his opposition to legalized gambling,

Bitzas urged the council to remain alert to the detrimental effect a casino in a neighboring community would have on Agawam and to take action before casino gambling spreads across the state.

Several councilors expressed their personal opposition to legalized gambling and their resolve to uphold the results of the 1994 referendum when Agawam residents voted 3-1 against casino gambling, but none would sign on to Bitzas' resolution. Several councilors maintained that the 1994 vote closed the issue of casino gambling in Agawam and no further action was needed on the part of Town Council unless or until the town is faced with another casino proposal.

Councilor Gina Letellier said, "It is not the job of this council to tell the Statehouse what to do or to tell other cities, other communities what to do about casino gambling."

SEE CASINOS - Page 2...



## SEE GRANT APPLICATION - Page 2...

But most people may not know that Main Street, as an important route to Connecticut during colonial times and during the country's infancy, was lined with taverns offering food and lodging to the traveling public. Many of those taverns still exist. No longer public houses, many 18th and 19th century taverns are private homes today and are counted among the 50 historically significant structures in the Main Street/Elm Street area.

Bliss Tavern, the oldest house in Agawam Center, was built between 1745 and 1747; Leonard Tavern was built in 1805; and Colton House was originally a tavern in 1850.

Built during the early 1800's, the Agawam Woolen Mill on Elm Street supplied broadcloth for the army during the War of 1812 and stockinette during the Civil War some 50 years later.

"We've had all these properties surveyed and approved from the Massachusetts Historic Commission," Ms. Dachos said. "We've identified 50 properties with historical significance at Agawam Center."

In recent years, Ms. Dachos sees a growing trend shifting public opinion away from the prevailing attitude of the 1950's through the 1970's, when commercial and residential development was seen as a sign of prosperity and the loss of historic buildings was considered part of the price of progress.

"Over the years, people started seeing that historic landmarks were being destroyed and now we're seeing that we can have prosperity and still preserve our historic heritage," Ms. Dachos said.

***Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays.***

## CASINOS - from Page 1...

Councilor Gary Geiger agreed. "Other communities should be able to express their own views and do what's right for themselves. But, I want to make it crystal clear that I am against casino gambling in Agawam."

Council Vice President Robert Magovern said he was "totally opposed" to gambling in the forms it has been presented to Western Massachusetts, pointing out that the money to build casinos does not come from winning customers. "I understand there are thousands of homes being foreclosed on by Foxwoods' attorneys because there are people who bet their homes," Magovern said.

Citing the success of two casinos run by Native Americans in Connecticut, Magovern said, "As far as I'm concerned, the Indians are getting even with us for 'firewater.' But, Agawam has spoken and no gambling will come to Agawam. The issue is closed."

## State's Track Record

Given the state's track record on respecting the views of Town Council regarding the override of local zoning granted by a state agency to Berkshire Power and Tennessee Gas Pipeline, Councilor Edward Caba said the resolution would be ignored in Boston and Councilor John Negruci argued against the resolution because it might be resented in Boston and provoke retaliation against the town.

Bitzas urged the council to back up its words of opposition to gambling with deeds. In not supporting his resolution, Bitzas said the council was sending the wrong message to town residents and to state lawmakers. In voicing opposition to gambling while refusing to take action, Bitzas said the councilors appeared to be playing games and "talking out of both sides of your mouths."

Objecting to the notion that the council was playing games with the issue, Council President Donald Rheault said the state was acutely aware of the position expressed by Agawam voters in the 1994 referendum, and that Bitzas' resolution would fall on deaf ears in Boston because lawmakers haven't made up their minds on the issue.

Rheault said the time to consider the issue would be if a casino proposal were on the table in the future. "At that time, I expect the council would stand tall in support of a resolution against casino gambling," Rheault said.

In the resolution and in oral arguments to the council, Bitzas maintained that the detriments of casino gambling, including compulsive gambling, lost business by local merchants, and increased crime associated with casino gambling far outweigh any benefits that gambling might bring to the state. The introduction of casino gambling would not bring new dollars into the local economy and would likely cause a redistribution of local spending on entertainment, resulting in the loss of revenue to local restaurants and entertainment businesses, Bitzas said.

In an interview after the council meeting, Councilor Dennis Perry said he agreed with the reasons given by the majority of the council in voting against the resolution and that he would support a statewide ballot on casino gambling rather than resolutions from individual cities and communities on whether to allow casino gambling in the state.

"I'd support a statewide ballot and let the people of the state decide if they support casino gambling," Perry said. "Like any other controversial issue, people are going to be for or against it. People have their own opinions and Agawam has said 3-1 it doesn't want gambling."

## Research Indicates Casinos A Detriment

Perry, who was a member of a commission appointed by Mayor Christopher C. Johnson to study the risks and benefits of casino gambling during the 1994 campaign, said his research indicated that casinos are a detriment rather than a benefit to the host communities. Perry is opposed to casino gambling.

The Mayor's commission did not express an opinion either for or against casino gambling (because their goal was to collect information on the pros and cons of gambling and present their findings without taking sides so that the public could make an informed choice), Perry said.

Johnson said he does not support casino gambling nor does he believe a casino in Western Mass. would be viable due to the close proximity of established casinos in Connecticut (at Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun).

"I oppose casino gambling on an economic rather than a moral basis," Johnson said. "I look at this from an economic standpoint and I believe we'll see other local entertainment businesses suffer from casino gambling."

Johnson said the legislature has to make a decision on legalizing casino gambling and then set up a mechanism for local approval by referendum.

# SCOTT M. HIBBERT

## Attorney at Law

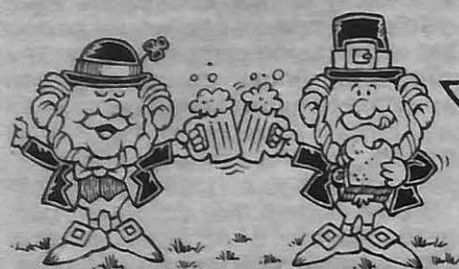
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**Martini & Rossi Asti Spumante (750 ml.)** ..... **\$8.99**

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750 ml.)** ..... **\$23.99**

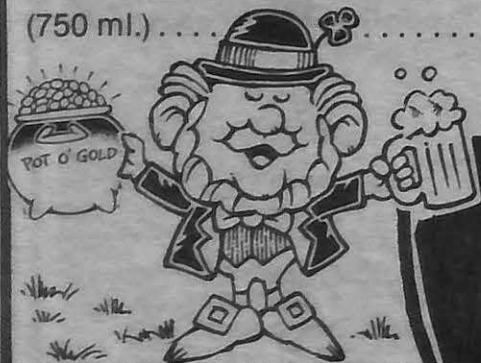
**Hedoes Fume-Chardonnay Washington**  
(750 ml.) ..... **\$6.99**

**Blackstone California Merlot (750 ml.)** ..... **\$9.99**

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## Letters To The Editor

### Ruehl/Bahre Family Benefit Showed Agawam At Its Best

#### To The Editor:

This past Saturday (February 27th), we had the pleasure of witnessing Agawam at its BEST, or to quote a wise man (Ric Sardella): "Agawam taking care of Agawam." We refer to the Ruehl/Bahre Family Benefit.

The THANK-YOUS are many, starting with *The Agawam Advertiser News* for helping get the word out about the benefit; the ever socially-conscious UNICO group for its cooking efforts; St. John's Parish for supplying a place; and the Agawam Boy and Girl Scouts for their ticket sales, set-up and clean-up crews, and their many baked goods.

The donated food came from E.B.'s, Patsy's, and Christo's Restaurants, Frigo's Gourmet Foods, Cincotta's Produce, ARAMatic Coffee Service, and Shades on Wheels.

The raffle prizes were donated by local businesses and individuals, adding excitement to an already fun-filled evening.

The Ruehl/Bahre Family Benefit Committee

### "Keep That Body Moving" Program Is Again A Success

#### To The Editor:

Once again, the "KEEP THAT BODY MOVING" program was a great success. I would like to thank the following people for making this program possible:

Mr. Ralph Zavarella and Mr. Louis Conte for their continued support; Ms. Debbie Lickley and Mrs. Stacey Reutt for leading the weekly exercises; the Middle School PTO for providing trophies and the Pizza Party.

A special thank you to Jean Mantha, Laura Albano, Michelle Parks, and Sarah Mantha for their help at the Pizza Party.

Sincerely,

Hilda Bartnik, R.N.

Agawam Middle School Nurse

#### LEGAL NOTICE

#### LEGAL NOTICE

#### TOWN OF AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, March 18, 1999 at 7:15 PM at the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Twenty-One (21) Registered Voters for a proposed amendment to the Agawam Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 180, by adding a provision relative to delaying the demolition of historically significant buildings. A copy of the proposed zoning amendment can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Office or the Agawam Town Clerk's Office between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM in the Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA.

BY ORDER OF:

Charles R. Calabrese, Chairman  
Agawam Planning Board

Published: March 4, 1999

#### LEGAL NOTICE

#### LEGAL NOTICE

#### TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Auditorium, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1999, at 6:30 P.M. for all parties interested in the appeal of RIVERSIDE PARK ENTERPRISES, INC., which is seeking a Special Use Permit in accordance with Section 180-11 of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow to resurface and make improvements to the existing parking lot, at the premises identified as 1624 MAIN STREET.

Doreen Prouty  
Acting Chairperson

Published: March 4, 1999

### At March 1st Meeting...

## Council Gives Full Support To Preserving Farmland In Feeding Hills

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

Ten-thousand years ago, their farmland lay hundreds of feet under the waters of Lake Hitchcock and Provin Mountain was an island breaking through the prehistoric body of water encompassing most of the present-day Connecticut River Valley all the way to Long Island Sound.

Within the next year, the 187 acres owned by Merwyn Farnsworth and Noel Brown on North West Street could lay under the protection of the Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) program of the State Department of Food and Agriculture, safe from the residential development boom that swept the town after World War II.

At Monday night's meeting, Town Council threw its unanimous support behind the two Feeding Hills farmers who are asking the state to include 100 acres of farmland owned by Brown and the abutting 87 acres owned by Farnsworth in the APR program. Both properties are located on North West Street and both are farmed by Noel Brown and his son, Mark, as Provin Mountain Farm.

Town Council President Donald Rheault read into the record a resolution supporting Farnsworth and Brown in seeking APR protection because their land is a valuable asset to the town, representing one of the largest active farms in the community.

In addition to preserving open space and providing fresh produce throughout the growing season to the community, Provin Mountain Farm is a source of season employment for many young people. Also, the farms are located in an area of town identified as having the highest potential for prehistoric archaeological treasures, according to supporting documentation sent to Town Council by the Conservation Commission. The APR applications have also received the enthusiastic support of the Planning Board.

"I'm not an expert on archaeology, but over the years I have found many arrowheads and axes," Brown said. "The soil has only been turned over about a foot at the deepest, so there is not much left to find on the surface. But, I'm intrigued at how discoveries are being made all the time all over the world. History is there in the soil for anyone who wants to dig it up."

Brown is convinced that a persistent spring on the hillside was surely the site of Native American encampments at some time in the distant past.

APR Program Launched In December 1977...

According to Director of Planning and Community Development Deborah S. Dachos, the APR program was launched in December 1977 to allow farmers to sell the development rights to their property to the state, resulting in the farmland being permanently protected and preserved for agriculture or as open space. The program has been highly competitive since its inception and Agawam has been fortunate to have seven APRs (totaling 183 acres) funded by the state.

The APR process is lengthy and requires both the farmers and the town to participate in the process. It can take up to two years before a farmer receives the money. Once the application is made by the farmer, the town must submit paperwork to the state that has been approved by the local conservation commission and presented to the town's elected officials. The DFA field checks the farm and an appraisal of the farm is conducted before the decision on purchasing the development rights is made.

Generally, towns are expected to make a financial contribution of matching funds, thereby

becoming a co-holder of the restriction with the Commonwealth.

If the state approves the two applications, the amount of farmland in Agawam that has been permanently preserved from development under the APR program will more than double to 370 acres.

Currently operating as an unusually diversified farm growing 21 different crops last year, Brown has seen Provin Mountain Farm, originally settled by his family at the turn of the century, undergo a series of changes over the years. If his application is successful, Brown hopes the money raised through selling the development rights to the state will provide the means for another change that will allow the family business to continue through the purchase of acreage that he is presently leasing.

In his boyhood, Brown's father, Charlie, ran the family business as a dairy farm and later converted to fruit and produce in the late 1930's and 1940's.

"I was just getting out of high school and had started in the 4-H garden club. My thing was vegetables and my dad liked what he saw. He thought some of the crops I grew looked pretty good and we converted from the dairy business," Brown remembers. "The way this business is, you try something and if it doesn't work, you try something else."

Over the years, the family has seen some ideas that were originally scoffed at turn out to be very successful, like the time Charlie was laughed at for trying to grow iceberg lettuce.

"People said 'Old Charlie's lost it now because everyone knows you grow lettuce in California,'" Brown recalls. "In the end, it became a big crop here in the Valley."

#### Pick-Your-Own Strawberries...

Pick-your-own strawberries was another idea that met with skepticism from some folks when the Brown family farm joined several farmers along North and South West Street, and North and South Westfield Streets in pioneering the bold step of bringing customers into their fields.

"We all did very well, drawing people from New York State and Boston all the way to New Haven, Connecticut," Brown said. "After we were called fools for letting people come onto our land, a lot of land opened up for pick-your-own strawberry farming in Connecticut and they gave us some real competition."

Other trends in farming, like farmstands for direct selling to the public and the 100 farmers' markets flourishing statewide, have proved successful for the Browns and have served as the impetus for more changes and more diversification on the farm.

The orchards are an important crop along with strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, and sweet corn. Flowers, bedding plants, and greenhouse tomatoes are big as well.

Besides the diversity of the crops, there's an endless variety (and often an unpredictability) in the tasks that make up life on a family farm.

On a recent cold night, Brown found himself babysitting the oil burners in the greenhouses to keep the plants from freezing. "With two dozen oil burners in our various greenhouses, there's always one or more that's apt to go on the fritz. It's not that we work around the clock here, but you have to be here 24 hours a day and seven days a week to take care of whatever comes up," Brown said.



## The Agawam Advertiser•News

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Production Staff

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Richard Sardella	Publisher & Owner
Ellen Lightcap	Production Manager/Graphic Artist
Teri Machia	Assistant Production Manager
Phil Benoit	Typesetter/Layout Assistant
Jack Devine	Photographer
Kathy Cassanelli	News Editor
Dave Rollins	Sports Editor
Peggy Shoemaker	Feature Writer

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All the hometown news  
with us, every week...

\* \* \*



## Low-Income Families & Seniors Can Apply For Home Heating Oil

Agawam Mayor Christopher Johnson joined Citizens Energy President Joseph P. Kennedy II recently to announce the availability of home heating oil to low-income and elderly households needing help keeping warm this winter.

Under the Citizens Energy Oil Heat Program, eligible households can receive two deliveries of up to 200 gallons of heating oil for 40 cents per gallon. To help families with acute need, the City of Agawam has established a local fuel assistance fund to further reduce the cost of heating oil for Agawam households.

"At a time when our economy seems to be going so well, there are still thousands of our friends and neighbors who need a helping hand to keep warm this winter," said Kennedy. "Working with people like Mayor Johnson, we are trying to reach all those in need with this new initiative. This winter, no one should be left out in the cold."

"We want to make sure that no needy family or senior is without heat," said Mayor Johnson. "Through the generosity of local residents, businesses, and churches, the town has established an emergency fuel assistance fund. We are delighted to team up with Joe Kennedy and Citizens Energy to strengthen our efforts."

The Citizens' initiative has been established in the wake of declining federal commitment of fuel assistance. Over the last 10 years, the federal program has been slashed in half, leaving thousands of low-income and elderly households without assistance.

Those needing help are advised to call the Valley Opportunity Council at (413) 552-1548 to fill out an application. Applicants from outside the region are asked to call the toll-free hotline number, 1-877-JOE-4-OIL (1-877-563-4645) to be referred to their local fuel assistance agency.

To reach out to needy households as well as donors, Public Service Announcements designed pro-bono by the Hill, Holliday, Connors, Cosmopolis Advertising Agency have been running on television and radio stations, which have donated advertising time to the campaign. Billboards have also been donated by AK Media to assist outreach efforts.

The heating oil initiative is a statewide effort involving over 350 local oilheat dealers, 22 fuel assistance agencies, and the United Way of Massachusetts Bay, which has established the United Way Oil Heat Fund to receive contributions to the program.

Donations should be made payable to United Way Oil Heat Fund, P.O. Box 1381A, Boston, MA 02205.

*Johnson Addresses The Future Of School Spending...*

## Reduced State Aid Signals An End To Unprecedented Increases

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

On the same day that the school superintendent hinted at decreasing state aid for local schools in his state of the schools address, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson sent a memo to the School Department predicting a much smaller rate of growth in school spending for the upcoming fiscal year.

In his letter to Superintendent of Schools Frank Ameruso, Johnson points out that the amount of state aid for Agawam Schools as reported in the budget submitted to the legislature by the governor will include an increase of \$448,208, which reflects a decrease in state aid of over \$800,000 as compared to the increase two years ago.

Nearing the end of a seven-year commitment from the state to fund education reform, Johnson said local communities can expect school aid to continue increasing, but at a drastically reduced rate. Johnson said the ed reform movement focused on growth within school districts across the state, but the focus has now changed to maintaining the progress made to date.

"I'm not giving the School Department a dollar figure for increasing the budget," Johnson said. "I informed the School Department a three to four percent increase was all the town could afford. I think that this is a good increase, considering the amount of the increase will be based on the unprecedented growth the School Department has seen over the last three years."

Another factor figuring into the slowed growth of the school budget is the town's responsibility to begin making larger principal and interest payments on the bond for the \$19.65 million school expansion and renovation projects at the four elementary schools and at the High School.

"Based on lower anticipated school aid from the state and higher school principal and interest payments, I would expect the largest increase the town would be able to fund is in the three to four

percent range," Johnson said. "Obviously, if additional revenue becomes available, I will make my best effort to provide additional funding to the schools."

**Highest Increase The School Dept. Can Expect...**

Assuming the higher figure of a four-percent increase, the most the School Department can expect in terms of an increase over last year's \$22,049,261 budget is \$881,970 to cover the costs of a 3.25 percent negotiated salary increase for the professional staff and all other expenses including new hires, tuition for out-of-district placements, transportation, special education costs, books, supplies, and all other expenses. Typically, salaries account for 75 to 80 percent of the school budget, Johnson said.

Last year, the School Department received an unprecedented increase of 10.99 percent, reflecting a fully funded school budget request and additional funding from the town for school councils (\$83,930) as well as capital improvement funds for educational technology (\$125,000) and expansion of the Early Childhood Center (\$150,000).

"It's too early in the budget process to predict if the schools will receive capital improvement funds in next year's budget," Johnson said. "But the schools are still my number-one priority, as they have been since I took office. If any additional funds are available, I will do my very best to provide it to the schools."

Johnson said the increase in school funding over the last three years has been extraordinary with a 10 percent increase in staff and huge investments in textbooks, technology, and professional development.

"We have dramatically exceeded the net school spending required by the state by \$1 million in fiscal year 1998 and \$1.2 million in fiscal year 1999," Johnson said. "There is no way for any town or city to continue that rate of growth."

*For copies of his photos in this edition, please call AAN photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053; he has all the negatives and will glad to help you.*

## ADVERTISER NEWS

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## Veterans' Corner...

### Morse Code System Is "Over And Out"

by Ruth C. Bitzas  
Veterans' Agent  
786-0400, Ext. 236/237

Veterans and non-veterans alike are familiar with the Morse Code System. Agawam Junior and Senior High students are most likely to be learning about it in their World War II history classes.

From this week's "Stars and Stripes," we find that this system is now being replaced by modern technology. Here are some known and unknown facts about Morse Code:

"Morse Code, which spelled out the demise of the Titanic and the end of two World Wars, fell victim February 1st to the relentless march of technology. For those in peril on the sea, three dots, three dashes, and three dots once spelled out SOS — the universally recognized call sign for a ship in distress. Now, Morse is being replaced by a satellite-based 'Mayday' system on all ships over 300 tons which have to carry satellite and radio equipment for sending and receiving distress alerts.

"It was invented in 1832 — appropriately enough on a Transatlantic sea crossing by Massachusetts portrait painter Samuel Morse. His system, the 19th-century precursor of the Internet, was hailed as 'the instantaneous highway of thought.' By the time of his death in 1872, the world boasted 650,000 miles of telegraph lines on land and 30,000 miles of submarine cable.

"With Marconi's invention of the wireless, Morse Code was given a new lease on life. In 1899, the first shipwreck was reported by Morse Code in the English Channel. By 1910, Morse had even trapped its first murderer when the notorious British killer Dr. Crippen was trapped. A message was tapped out to the liner Montrose, on which he was trying to escape to Canada with his mistress.

"Tragedy struck in 1912 when the fateful message 'SOS Come at once. We have struck berg' was tapped out by the Titanic. Hundreds of lives could have been saved by the liner California, just miles away. But its radio operator was not on duty and never heard the message. From then on, all ships maintained a 24-hour radio

watch.

"The London Times, reflecting nostalgically on the 19th century answer to e-mail, said in an editorial Feb. 1st: "MORSE BROADCAST THE CEASEFIRES OF BOTH WORLD WARS. It was used by generals and spies, speculators, journalists, and prisoners communicating with the next cell." And then it concluded sadly... "OVER AND OUT."

The following list of Agawam Vietnam War veterans will be listed on our Honor Roll. Each lived in Agawam at the time of their entry into the military. This week's list will be those whose last name begins with the letter "P." If you know of any others who served and are not listed, you will need to contact our office and provide a discharge showing Agawam as Home of Record.

#### VIETNAM VETERANS "P"

Jordan H. Paddock, Bruce E. Page, George F. Pappas III, Charles A. Parent, William P. Parent, Willard Parker, David G. Parkman, Joseph H. Paro, Jr., George F. Parrott, Frank M. Parzych, Jr., Basil R. Pederzani, Louis E. Pedulla, Jr., Kenneth R. Penrose, Joseph Pepe, Avon L. Perkins, Bruce F. Perkins.

Russell J. Perusse, William M. Peterson, Frank A. Petrangelo, Carleton D. Petrucci, Sebastionia Petrucci, Jr., Arthur C. Petruzzello, Jr., John R. Phaneuf, Herbert B. Phelps, James S. Pickrell, Richard T. Pieczarka, Dean H. Pierce, Russell L. Pierce, Dante G. Pilegi, Mario A. Pioggia, Ronald M. Pioggia, Linda L. Pisano, Richard E. Pisano.

Robert E. Pisano, Raymond F. Pleva, Joseph J. Poirier, Robert C. Polopek, Richard A. Pomery, David E. Pond, Robert H. Poorman, Frank A. Porter, John A. Potito, Charles T. Potter, Emanuel Poulos, Thomas L. Powers, Carl W. Preissler, Arthur D. Premont, Robert W. Price, Ronald R. Pro-novost, Bruce P. Provenzano, Gary L. Provost, Laurence A. Provost, Frederick Pruczinski.

## Agawam's Open Burning Guidelines

The Department of Environmental Protection has designated January 15, 1999 through May 1, 1999 for open burning. Certain guidelines have been established and must be adhered to.

The Agawam Fire Department will issue and monitor each permit on a daily basis. Permits will only be issued weather permitting and only to those locations meeting guidelines.

1. Burning of brush, cane driftwood, and forestry debris will be allowed.

2. No grass, hay, leaves, stumps, paper products, trash of any kind will be allowed. CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED AT ANY TIME.

3. Burning shall take place between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

4. NO COMMERCIAL OR INSTITUTIONAL BURNING PERMITS WILL BE ISSUED.

5. Burning shall be at a location greater than 75 feet from any dwelling or structure.

6. Outside burning for cooking purposes is allowed.

7. NEVER USE GASOLINE TO START THE FIRE.

8. Someone must attend the fire until completely extinguished. Have water supply handy at all times.

ANY FIRE WHICH IS DETERMINED TO BE A HEALTH HAZARD OR NUISANCE, WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE EXTINGUISHED IMMEDIATELY.

All permits will be issued from Fire Headquarters, 800 Main Street, Agawam. The phone number is 786-2662.

PLEASE DO NOT USE THE "911" NUMBER TO CALL FOR PERMITS.

\* \* \*

**Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon...**

\* \* \*

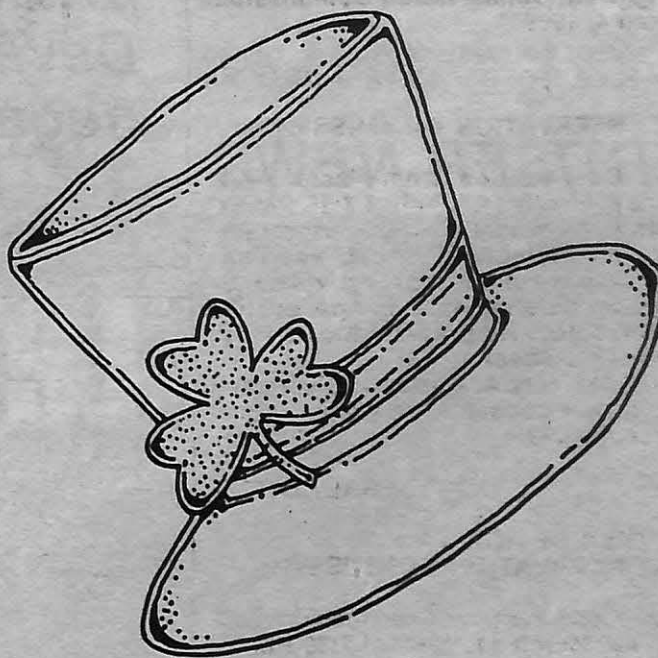
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# FireWise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano

## If Your Clothing Catches Fire, STOP, DROP, AND ROLL!!!

All clothing can burn, and some clothing burns more easily than others. The Agawam Fire Department recommends that if your clothing catches fire, STOP, DROP, AND ROLL to put out the flames.

Don't run or keep standing. Running will only fan the flames and make them higher. Standing up straight will make the fire burn faster.

STOP AND DROP down to the floor or ground. ROLL or rock back and forth to smother the flames. Smothering the fire cuts off its supply of oxygen so it cannot burn.

If possible, rock or roll in a rug, blanket, or coat to smother the fire faster. Attempt to cover your face with your hands to keep the fire away from your face.

When the fire is out, cool the burn with water

and call the fire department or rescue squad at 911. Do not remove the burned clothing if it is stuck to the skin. Keep the victim quiet and warm until help arrives.

The fatal mistake people make in a clothing fire is to panic and run. Seconds count. The smothering action must be automatic. A trained, immediate response of STOP, DROP, AND ROLL is extremely important.

The running response occurs in all age groups, but it is prevalent in younger children. Scared children run to find parents or mistakenly think that only water can put out a fire and they run to find it. Everyone, especially children, must be taught to STOP, DROP, AND ROLL.

Parents and teachers should encourage children to practice by making a weekly game of it. Make sure that they understand when and

where to use this technique.

Most clothing fires are careless accidents and can be prevented. Follow these simple rules:

- Purchase clothing made with a smooth, tight weave. Fully, lightweight, loosely woven, or loose-fitting fabric will ignite and burn much easier.

- Use caution when using or working with any heat sources or flames.

- By law, children's sleepwear must be flame-retardant at time of purchase (available in sizes up to 6X). However, the washing and care instructions must be followed to maintain the fire-retardant feature.

- Keep children away from heat sources such as candles, stoves, cigarettes, outdoor grills, matches, portable heaters, etc.

For further information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

### LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Auditorium, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1999, at 6:45 P.M. for all parties interested in the appeal of RIVERSIDE PARK ENTERPRISES, INC., which is seeking a Special Use Permit in accordance with Section 180-11 of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the creation of a parking lot at the premises identified as 1822 MAIN STREET.

Doreen Prouty  
Acting Chairperson

Published: March 4, 1999

### LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, March 11, 1999 at 8:00 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Premier Parks, Inc. for property located on the east side of Main Street.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman  
Agawam Conservation Commission  
Published: March 4, 1999

### LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, March 11, 1999 at 7:45 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Premier Parks, Inc. for property located on the west side of Main Street.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman  
Agawam Conservation Commission  
Published: March 4, 1999

### LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, March 11, 1999 at 7:30 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Fether, Inc. for property located at the end of Lancaster Drive and off of Line Street.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman  
Agawam Conservation Commission  
Published: March 4, 1999

### LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, March 11, 1999 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Anchor Electric Service Co. for work to be performed on Silver Street, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman  
Agawam Conservation Commission  
Published: March 4, 1999

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## — Agawam Obituaries —

### Carl W. Preissler

Carl W. Preissler, 49, of 86 Ottawa Street, Agawam, a decorated Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Born in Springfield, he moved to Agawam 31 years ago. He worked for area roofing companies, including Titan Roofing, for 25 years.

He served in the Navy Seabees (Construction Battalions) during the Vietnam War and received the Bronze Star, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Rifle Marksman's Badge, and the Fleet Marine Combat Insignia. He also served at Guantanamo, Cuba.

He belonged to Roofers Union Local 248, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1632 in Agawam, the Vietnam Veterans' Association, the Bass Anglers Sportsmen's Society, and the Southwick Sportsmen's Club.

He leaves his parents, Harold and Alice (Dougherty) Hubbard of Agawam; a brother, Timothy of Agawam; and four sisters, Deborah Whiteley of Easthampton, Susan Thayer of Huntington, Kathleen Hubbard of Agawam, and Tina Rossi of Ware.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home, with burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Vietnam War Veterans, in care of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1632, 194 South Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

### Roy I. Blanchard

Roy I. Blanchard, 71, of 88 Stony Hill Road, Wilbraham, died recently at a local nursing home.

He worked for Monarch Life Insurance Co. for 30 years and retired as sales training director.

He managed the Syracuse, New York office and was an instructor in the company's educational center.

Born in Rochester, New York, he was a 1947 graduate of East High School there and attended Buffalo (New York) State College.

He lived in Boston and Syracuse before moving to Agawam in 1974. He moved to Wilbraham in 1991.

He was an instructor in the Life Underwriters Trainer Council and president of the New England Training Directors Association. He was instrumental in the development of, and training for, Monarch's nationally acclaimed disability income, variable life insurance, and universal life insurance programs.

He was a former communicant of St. Barnabas and All Saints Episcopal Church in Springfield, and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Longmeadow.

He was an Army veteran of the Korean War.

He leaves his wife, the former Margaret Weber of Agawam; a son, Roy I. of Attleboro; two daughters, Cheryl A. L'Europa of Johnston, Rhode Island, and Carol L. Blanchard of Wilbraham; and four grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Funeral Home and the church, with burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Barnabas and All Saints Church, 42 Oakland Street, Springfield, MA 01108.

### Augustus J. Van Newenhoven

Augustus J. Van Newenhoven, 72, of Apartment 9, 2149 Riverdale Road, West Springfield, died recently at Springfield's Olympus Hospital.

He was an engineer at Worthington Co. (now Atlas Copco) in Holyoke for several years.

Born and schooled in Boston, he was a graduate of the Northeastern University School of Engineering.

He served with the Army in Germany during World War II.

He was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church.

He leaves his wife, the former Mary Maloney; two sons, Douglas J. of Agawam and Wayne of Florida; and two sisters, Joan Wilber of Boston and Marion Slaney of Florida.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 53 Capital Drive, West Springfield, MA 01089.

### Anna M. Marr

Anna M. Marr of 122 Main Street, Agawam, died recently in East Longmeadow.

She was the office manager at Holy Name Church in Chicopee for 15 years and retired in 1979. She worked previously in the same capacity at Our Lady of the Lake Church in Southwick from 1950 through 1964.

She also worked at the former Harrington Hudson car dealership in Springfield for 25 years.

Born in Springfield, she graduated from the Sacred Heart Parochial School and was a parishioner of Sacred Heart Church.

She leaves her sister-in-law, Mildred Clarke Marr of Springfield; a nephew, Alfred C. Marr of Sharon; and a niece, Elizabeth M. Collins of Springfield.

The funeral was held at Sampson's Chapel of the Acres Funeral Home in Springfield and the church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Sisters of Notre Dame, 63 South Street, Chicopee, MA 01013, or the Sacred Heart Church Renovation Fund, 395 Chestnut Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

### James E. Flood III

James E. Flood III, 50, of 417 Robin Court, Cheshire, Connecticut, and formerly of Feeding Hills, died recently at St. Mary's Hospital in Waterbury, Connecticut.

He was a hydraulics technician for Otis Elevator Division of United Technologies Corp. for 20 years.

Born in Tucson, Arizona, he moved to Southington before moving to Feeding Hills. He moved to Cheshire in 1996.

He was a graduate of Southington High School and was a Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War.

He was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills and belonged to the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion in Cheshire.

He also was active in Agawam Little League baseball.

He leaves his former wife, Lois Lavalette of Feeding Hills; two sons, James E. IV and Jason E., both of Feeding Hills; a brother, Andrew of Illinois; and his friend, Diana Reece of Cheshire.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam, with burial in Oak Grove Cemetery, Springfield, MA.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

### David B. Carle

David B. Carle, 46, of Carmel Lane, Feeding Hills, a driver for Triple S Vending Co. of Springfield, died recently at home.

He worked previously for the former Borrelli Vending Co. of Springfield. He also was the proprietor of Carle's Restaurant in Chicopee and managed the Moore Drop Forge Co. cafeteria in Springfield.

Born in Springfield, he lived in Chicopee for 28 years before moving to Feeding Hills 18 years ago.

He was a 1970 graduate of Chicopee High School and a communicant of Holy Name Church in Chicopee.

He belonged to Elder Council 69 of the Knights

of Columbus, also in Chicopee.

He was a scoutmaster with Cub Scout Pack 78 in Feeding Hills.

He leaves his wife, the former Kimberly A. Blake; a son, Shane A. of Feeding Hills; four brothers, Michael F. and Ronald A., both of Springfield, Donald of Shapleigh, Maine, and Paul of Dover, New Hampshire; and two sisters, Donna Houle of Chicopee and Marie Bisson of Rochester, New Hampshire.

The funeral was held at Corridan Funeral Home and the church, both in Chicopee.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

### James S. Pickrell

James S. Pickrell, 77, of Agawam, retired from the Navy and Pratt and Whitney Aircraft Division of United Technologies, East Hartford, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Born in Newport, Rhode Island, he moved to Springfield at an early age and attended Springfield public schools, before entering the Navy in 1940.

He served 20 years in Naval aviation units as an aviation machinist mate and served on the USS New Mexico and the carrier FDR in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

He also served during World War II and the Korean War.

His interest in aviation prompted the building of many radio-controlled models of airplanes and boats.

He leaves his wife, the former Vera Doane; two sons, James S. Jr. of Farmington, Maine, and David L. of White Haven, Pennsylvania; two brothers, Donald and Jesse, and two sisters, Elizabeth Quill and Isabelle Murphy, all of Springfield; and three grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home in Agawam, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Agawam Congregational Church Capital Fund, 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

### Stanley C. Burek

Stanley C. "Barney" Burek, 82, of Mansion Woods, Agawam, died recently at a Suffield nursing home.

He played baseball for the Cardinals AC.

Born and educated in Chicopee, he was the co-owner of the Clover Cafe.

He was a member of the Suffield Country Club, the Over 80 Ski Club, and a volunteer instructor at the Mount Tom ski area.

He leaves a brother, Fred of Springfield, and a friend, Teresa Mayer of Agawam.

The funeral was held at Starzyk Funeral Home and in the Basilica of St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr, with burial in the parish cemetery, all in Chicopee.

### Richard D. Jervis

Richard D. Jervis, 95, formerly of Hartford, died recently in an Agawam area nursing home.

He was employed by the Travelers Insurance Co. for 31 years.

He was director of training and special services and retired in 1969 as superintendent of agencies for life, health, and financial services.

Born in Bellevue, Kentucky, he lived in Cincinnati, Ohio, before moving to West Hartford in 1949.

He was a graduate of the University of Cincinnati and a chartered life underwriter.

His wife, the former Mary Margaret Patrick, died in 1974.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 9...

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**OBITUARIES - from Page 8...**

He leaves a son, Robert C. of Cambridge; a daughter, Patricia J. Cox of Agawam; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral and burial were private and at the convenience of the family, and Alternative Funeral Service in Springfield was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

**Mary R. Santinello**

Mary Rose (Keane) Santinello, 79, of Agawam, died recently in a Springfield nursing home.

Born in Holyoke, she lived in Agawam for 40 years and attended local schools.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills.

Her husband, Charles "Chappy" Santinello, died in 1980.

She leaves six sons, Charles of St. Augustine, Florida, William of Springfield, Donald and Ronald, both of Feeding Hills, and Frank and Anthony, both of Agawam; five daughters, Carol Everett of Louisiana, Barbara Beyer of Ludlow, Patricia Santinello of West Springfield, Jean Santinello of Springfield, and Margaret Montanaro of Westfield; 21 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Association, 11 Campus Lane, Easthampton, MA 01027.

**N. Mae Thayer**

N. Mae (LaDuke) Thayer, 88, of Meadowbrook Road, Agawam, died recently at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

She worked for the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co. in Springfield. She later worked for the YMCA in Springfield and at local banks.

Born in Palmer, she attended schools in Springfield and graduated from the High School of Commerce.

She was the first woman to record a hole-in-one at the former Memorial Golf Course in Springfield.

Her husband, Frank Thayer, died in 1989.

She leaves a brother, George J. LaDuke of Springfield; three nephews; and a niece.

A private funeral and burial were held in Hillcrest Park Cemetery, and Dickinson Streeter Funeral Home of Springfield was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Shriners Hospital for Children, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

**Mary R. Ricottilli**

Mary Rose (Damico) Ricottilli, 98, of 7 Leonard Road, Walpole, MA, died recently in Harrington House in Walpole.

## Agawam Bicycle Advisory Committee To Meet March 29th

An organizational meeting to form the Agawam Bicycle Advisory Committee will be held on March 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the Faolin Peirce Room of the Agawam Police Station.

Agawam residents who have an interest in bicycling as transportation or recreation are encouraged to attend.

For more information, please call 789-1620.

## Keenan Has Info On Medicare Changes

Senior citizens confused about Medicare HMO drug benefit changes can contact State Representative Daniel F. Keenan's office to obtain a pamphlet outlining the different financial assistance programs offered by health plans.

To obtain a pamphlet, Rep. Keenan can be contacted at (413) 786-4545.

The basic pharmacy benefit structure and the one-year transitional programs vary somewhat from plan to plan. Plans highlighted on the pamphlet are: Tufts, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, Fallon, and Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

*Be sure to check our classified ads each and every week...*

Born in Sterling, CT, she lived in Moosup, CT, for many years before moving to Agawam in 1956. She moved to Walpole in 1995.

She was a retired employee for the former Buxton Company in Agawam, retiring in 1971.

She was a former communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church, and a communicant of the Blessed Sacrament in Walpole.

Her husband, Charles Ricottilli, died in 1964.

She was also predeceased by two sons, Alfred Ricottilli in 1988 and Raymond Ricottilli in 1977, and a daughter, Rita Marcus in 1991.

She leaves a son, Francis Ricottilli of Houston, TX; three sisters, Sister Mary Borromeo of West Hartford, Evelyn Reitz of Lansing, IL, and Helen Moulin of Danielson, CT; five grandchildren, Robert H. Marcus of Westfield, James H. Marcus of West Springfield, John F. Marcus of Walpole, Steven P. Marcus of West Springfield, and Mary Rose Guilliano of West Hartford; and 11 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament in Walpole, with burial in All Hallow's Cemetery in Moosup.

Agawam Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

**Harry St. John**

Harry St. John, 70, of Grove Village, West Springfield, a manager at the former Ames Department Store in New Haven, Connecticut, for 20 years until his retirement in 1992, died Monday, March 1st, at the Olympus Specialty Hospital in Springfield.

Born in Caribou, Maine, he was a West Springfield resident for many years.

He was an Air Force veteran of the Korean Conflict, serving as a private first class.

Prior to his work at Ames Department Store, he worked as a buyer at Albert Steiger Co. for 20 years.

He is survived by three brothers, Robert Anctil, Maurice Dionne, and Roland Dionne, all of Quebec, Canada; and four sisters, Marguerite Willett of West Springfield, and Therese Michaud, Lucille Rodrigue, and Madeline Leveille, all of Quebec, Canada.

Funeral services will be held privately, with burial at a later date. There are no calling hours.

Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam is in charge of the arrangements.

**Ruth E. LaRocque**

Ruth E. (Smith) LaRocque, 81, of Main Street, Agawam, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

She was a waitress for more than 40 years at

Jackson's, Howard Johnson's, and Ciro's Restaurant in the Springfield area.

Born in Agawam, she lived in Springfield most of her life, before returning to Agawam eight years ago.

She leaves a son, Bruce of Gansevoort, New York; two brothers, Malcolm E. of Agawam and Eugene O. of West Springfield; two sisters, Jeanette Steele of Oakdale, Connecticut, and Shirley Kilbride of Indian Orchard; a granddaughter; and two great-grandsons.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Shriners Hospital, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

**Augustus C. Hocker**

Augustus C. Hocker, 82, of 282 Rowley Street, Agawam, died recently at Western Mass. Hospital in Westfield.

He was a retired brick mason.

Born in Westfield, he was a graduate of Cathedral High School and lived in Agawam since 1953.

He was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church.

He was a Navy veteran of World War II, a past commander of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a member of the American Legion in Agawam.

His wife, the former Beulah Modlin, died in 1986.

He leaves a brother, Robert of Isanti, Minnesota, and nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. John the Evangelist Church, Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

**Beatrice V. Bougie**

Beatrice V. (Lariviere) Bougie, 102, of 340 North West Street, Feeding Hills, died recently at a West Springfield nursing home.

Born in New Bedford, she lived in Feeding Hills since 1938.

She leaves a nephew, Paul A. Pigeon of Feeding Hills, and other nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held at Belanger Funeral Home and in St. Anne Church, with burial in the parish cemetery, all in the Three Rivers section of Palmer.

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## Families

### Agawam Lions Donate To Veterans' Council Projects

Veterans' Agent Ruth C. Bitzas has announced that the Agawam Lions Club recently made donations to two Veterans' Council Projects.

"Many thanks to the Agawam Lions Club for their support," said Bitzas. "I've been presented with a check for \$500 for the Honor Roll project, and another \$500 check for our Street of Flags." The presentations were made by Lions Club President Robert Campbell and First Vice-President Christopher Johnson.

Bitzas stated, "We now have a total of \$22,864 to be used to erect an Honor Roll of Agawam veterans on the Veterans' Memorial Green on Main Street in front of Phelps School. While we have a way to go to meet our goal, we are well on the way thanks to Agawam residents and businesses such as the Agawam Lions Club."

She continued, "Our Street of Flags has been in dire need of contributions since our goal is to flag Main Street from the Southworth Paper Company to the new State Veterans' Cemetery in time for the Dedication of the Veterans' Cemetery in mid 2000."

"In addition, in speaking with a member of the Agawam Historical Association, we realize that the Granger School Green was, in years past, an Assembly and Ceremonial area for Agawam Revolutionary veterans. This past week, the Veterans' Council voted to flag the intersection at Feeding Hills Center in time for the town's Memorial Day observances. Also, we hope to extend the Street of Flags a little further south on Main Street and replace a few of the soiled and tattered flags."

Bitzas remarked, "The cost to sponsor a flag is \$25, yet any and all donations will help extend the Street of Flags. If any residents or businesses wish to help, checks may be made payable to 'Veterans' Council Street of Flags,' care of Veterans' Services, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001."

"Once again, thank you, Agawam Lions!" concluded Bitzas.

### Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, March 8th:** Shepherd's pie, carrot coins, pumpernickel bread, orange.

**Tuesday, March 9th:** Chicken breast, baked potato, green beans, rye bread, chocolate pudding.

**Wednesday, March 10th:** Roast turkey, stuffing with gravy, butternut squash, roll, apricots.

**Thursday, March 11th:** Pork cutlet with gravy, corn, cheese-baked potato, rye bread, pineapple.

**Friday, March 12th:** "St. Patrick's Day Party"—Corned beef, potatoes, carrots, cabbage, Irish soda bread, shamrock cake.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

### Roast Beef Dinner Slated By Local Operation Friendship

Operation Friendship of America, a non-profit youth cultural exchange program sponsored by the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, is having a Roast Beef Dinner on March 6th.

Dinner consists of roast beef and gravy, mashed potato, tossed salad, vegetable, bread and butter, dessert and beverage.

Servings are from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Adults are \$7.25; children under 12 are \$4, and children under five are free.

Reservations are appreciated. Call 786-8743. Walk-ins are welcome.

*Check our classified  
ads in each edition...*



**VETERANS' AGENT RUTH C. BITZAS** (center) recently received Lions Club donations from Club President Bob Campbell (second from right). Looking on (from left to right) are Dianne Moreau, Veterans' Services; George Schlagel, Veterans' Council; and Christopher Johnson, Lions Club First Vice-President. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

### Wilbraham Women's Club To Hold 'Bid For Spring' Card Party

The Wilbraham Women's Club will hold its annual 'BID FOR SPRING' card and game party at 12:00 noon on Thursday, March 18th at Wilbraham United Church, 500 Main Street, Wilbraham.

Come play your favorite card or table game and enjoy a fingertip luncheon, dessert, and a drawing for prizes.

The donation is \$5 per person. Proceeds benefit the club's Scholarship Fund and Community Service activities.

Call Anne McNamara at 596-3639 for reservations.

### Ag. Cultural Council To Sponsor 'Plan Your Own' Trip To NYC

The Agawam Cultural Council will sponsor a "Plan Your Own Trip" to New York City on Saturday, May 15th.

Several stops will be made along Fifth Avenue for the convenience of those attending. Tickets may be obtained by sending a check made out to the Agawam Cultural Council, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Agawam Cultural Council, 933 River Road, Agawam, MA 01001.

Cost of the trip will be \$20. For further information, call 786-1859.

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MR. & MRS. CRAIG KESSLER

## Lisa Dialessi Becomes Bride Of Craig Kessler

Mr. & Mrs. John Dialessi are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Lisa, to Craig Kessler. Craig is the son of Ingrid Kessler and the late Donald Kessler of Newtown, Connecticut.

Lisa and Craig were married on October 24, 1998 at the St. Bridgid's Church in West Hartford, Connecticut. The reception was held at the Aqua Turf in Plantsville, Connecticut.

The couple spent their honeymoon at DisneyWorld and aboard the premier cruise ship, Disney Magic.

Lisa graduated from Agawam High School in 1992 and Syracuse University in Syracuse, New York in 1996. Craig is a graduate of Newtown High School and a 1996 graduate of Syracuse University.

Lisa is an Advertising Account Executive with Cashman and Katz of Glastonbury, Connecticut and Craig is a Business Analyst for Ames Corporation of Rocky Hill, Connecticut.

The couple are presently residing in the Connecticut area.

*On St. Patrick's Day...*

## Clancy Brothers To Perform At Chez Josef In Agawam

The world-famous Clancy Brothers, Ireland's best-known folksingers, will bring their timeless Irish music and blarney to the Pioneer Valley to celebrate St. Patrick's Day '99.

They will appear for one show only on Wednesday, March 17th, at Chez Josef in Agawam as they headline the annual Landmark Tours' St. Patrick's Day Party. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. for the gala holiday show, which will include Irish stepdancers and a full-course luncheon.

Since they first captivated American audiences in their numerous appearances on *The Ed Sullivan Show* in the early 1960's, the Clancy Brothers have continued to weave their magic spell with a blend of music, history, poetry, and wit. They have recorded numerous albums through the years and, though the personnel has varied slightly from time to time, their material is always relevant.

Local celebrity Jack O'Neill, a long-time radio and TV personality, will emcee the local St. Patrick's Day event, which commences with a welcome reception at 10:30 a.m. at Chez Josef.

A demonstration of Irish stepdancing will be performed by students of the Griffith's Academy of Irish Dancing in the Grand Ballroom, followed by a full-course luncheon (including a choice of corned beef and cabbage, baked scrod, or chicken francaise). The Clancy Brothers will take center stage at 1:30 p.m.

The Chez Josef banquet facility, located on Shoemaker Lane in Agawam, has received numerous national and regional culinary awards. This family-owned business ranks among the top 50 in America for "Restaurant and Food Service Excellence."

For reservations to the luncheon/show, contact Landmark Tours at 569-1500 (from Connecticut, call 1-800-922-6279). The cost is \$41 per person, or \$375 for a table of 10. Personal checks or major credit cards are accepted.

Landmark Tours is a member of the National Tour Association and the Greater Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau.

**ADVERTISER NEWS**

## Laurie DaSilva Engaged To Wed Matthew Balboni

Laurie DaSilva is engaged to Matthew Balboni. The couple are planning a June wedding followed by a Caribbean honeymoon.

The future bride, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Lee DaSilva of Ludlow, is a graduate of Westfield State College, where she is pursuing a master's degree. She is a teacher in the Springfield Public School System.

Her fiancé is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Martin Balboni of Ohio Avenue, West Springfield. He is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and is employed by the Stop & Shop Supermarket chain.

He is the grandson of Mrs. Carlo Balboni of King Street, Agawam, and the late Mr. Balboni.



LAURIE DASILVA

*Best local news...*



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PVT. NORMAN J. GAGNE, JR.

## Pvt. Norman J. Gagne, Jr. Completes Basic Training At Parris Is.

Pvt. Norman J. Gagne, Jr., son of Kim Roberts-Ashey of Feeding Hills and the late Norman Gagne, has successfully completed basic training with the U.S.M.C. PLT. 3018, 3rd battalion, Company M at Parris Island, South Carolina, on February 26, 1999.

While in training, he was platoon leader of platoon 3018. He also received the PET and the PFT awards. These awards are given to the one Marine in each Company who demonstrates superior physical achievement by attaining the highest score.

His MOS (Mission of Service) will be further education with the Marine Corps, and advanced infantry at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. From there, he will be assigned duty.

Norm is also the stepson of Ron Ashey, and the brother of Bruce and Ron Jr.

He is the grandson of Donald and Carol Roberts, Emma Gagne, and the late Renaud Gagne. He is the great-grandson of Frank and Caroline DeMaio and the late Percy and Emily Roberts.

Norm is a 1998 graduate of Agawam High School.



Agawam Senior Games Athletes are planning a large Tag/Easter/Bake Sale at the Agawam Senior Center on Saturday, March 20th from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Items offered will include exercise equipment, bicycles, kitchen items, clothing, craft items, Easter raffle, and much, much more!!! There will be grab bags for children and adults, so we suggest that you come early, as the items disappear fast.

The bake table promises to have many delicious surprises, and donuts and coffee will be served for \$1. It is always a hard-working but enjoyable day for the athletes, and they look forward to seeing all their friends come to browse and visit over a cup of coffee.

The Easter raffle will consist of five Easter baskets, all made by the athletes. Raffle tickets are three for \$1 and are good for all five drawings.

Please mark this date, March 20th, on your calendar, and come join the athletes for a fun day at the Agawam Senior Center. If you haven't been to one of their tag sales, you don't know what you are missing. Hope to see you on the 20th.

## ADVERTISER NEWS



**BUSILY PREPARING BASKETS** for the raffle at the upcoming Fashion Show are the following members of the Agawam Women's Club (from left to right): Elaine Smith, Chairman of the Fashion Show; Bernice Nowill, Club Member; and Faith Freeman, Club President.

## Agawam Women's Club To Hold March 21st Fashion Show

The Agawam Women's Club will sponsor a Fashion Show at Chez Josef on Sunday, March 21st.

The social hour will be at 12:00 noon, and a brunch buffet will be served at 12:30 p.m., to be followed by the showing of fashions by Lorraine's Fashion Showcase of Holyoke. Members of the Agawam Women's Club will be modeling.

Three lovely gourmet baskets — namely, gourmet, kitchen, and bath — will be raffled, and there will be many door prizes. The cost is \$20 per reservation, and reservations may be made by calling 786-3091, 594-5355, or 789-1481.

This event is one of the club's major fundraisers for this year that will enable its members to perform some of their services to the communi-

ty.

The Agawam Women's Club was organized over 70 years ago and through the years has served our community in many different ways.

At Christmas, the club furnished the veterans at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home with personal and needed items, and sent food donations to the Open Pantry. The club also awards scholarships to deserving high school students, and (at present) its members are planning a mid-winter social for a local nursing home.

Guests are always welcome at the Agawam Women's Club meetings, which are held at the Captain Charles Leonard House on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

## Wilbraham Women's Club To Meet On Thursday, March 11th

The Wilbraham Women's Club will meet at 12:00 noon on Thursday, March 11th in the Fellowship Hall at the Wilbraham United Church.

Douglas Bilodeau from Douglas Auctioneers, a National Certified Auctioneer from Deerfield, Massachusetts, will be the guest speaker.

Please bring in your treasures as he has agreed to appraise them.

— Best local news!!! —

## ASGA To Sponsor March 15th Trip To Mohegan Sun

The Agawam Senior Games Athletes will sponsor a trip to Mohegan Sun on March 15th. The price of \$16 includes gratuities, and each participant will receive a \$10 meal ticket and a \$10 free play on the big wheel.

King Ward Coach Lines will pick up participants at Sacred Heart Church at 8:00 a.m. The bus will leave Mohegan Sun at 4:00 p.m. sharp.

For more information, call Edie Chiba at 786-5539 or Vi Presz at 786-3164, or the Senior Center.

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## Agawam Garden Club Announces Schedule Of 1999 Programs

Have the snow, ice, and chilly air given you the winter blues? Have no fear, spring is on the way shortly and the Agawam Garden Club Executive Board has set up a great program starting this month to change those winter blues to spring fever. The meeting dates and programs are as follows:

**March 9th:** Wildflowers Through the Seasons with guest speaker Charles (Charlie) Spencer. Charlie is Chairman of the National Ecology Commission, Secular Franciscan Order, USA, and is editor of the Commission's newsletter, "The Guardian of Creation."

He founded "National Wildflower Week," now sponsored by the Secular Franciscan Order, U.S.A., and has organized, since 1993, the eastern U.S. annual "Wildflower Garden Sale & Restoration Initiative."

An avid wildflower gardener, Charlie has introduced nearly 300 native species to the gardens around his home in West Springfield. He is also a locally noted poet and nature interpreter. Guest fee is \$1 and refreshments will be served following the program.

**April 13th:** Growing Herbs; speaker Larry Lirot.

**April 20th:** Seedling Workshop with Barbara Schaedler at Springfield Technical Community College.

**May 11th:** Color In Your Garden with Barbara Schaedler.

**May 15th:** Agawam Garden Club Annual Plant Sale, co-chaired by Judy Clini and Kathy Norris.

**June 8th:** Agawam Garden Club Recognition Program.

**June 12th:** Bus trip to White Flower Farms in Litchfield, CT.

**July 13th:** Cooking With Herbs, with guest speaker Mary Dupre.

**August 10th:** Annual picnic at a member's home.

**September 11th:** Bus trip to Variegated Foliage Nursery in Eastford, CT.

**September 14th:** Dried and Silk Flower Workshop, given by Helen Lawrenchuk and Julia Kozikowski.



**THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE Agawam Garden Club** were recently elected to the Executive Board (from left to right): Teresa Greenwood; vice-president; Barbara Pemberton, president; Melanie Blackak, publicity; Ann Mary Bradford, secretary; and Terry Angotti, treasurer. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

**October 12th:** How We Affect Our Environment, with guest speaker Doug Kimball.

**November 9th:** Annual Banquet at the Agawam Congregational Church, with guest speaker Jen Werner covering Success With Houseplants.

**November 30th:** Annual Greens Meeting.

**December 4th-5th:** Yuletide at Storowton.

Executive Board members elected for another two-year term are Barbara Pemberton of Westfield, president; Teresa Greenwood of Westfield, vice-president; Ann Bradford of Agawam, secretary; Terry Angotti of Agawam, treasurer; and newly-elected for publicity is Melanie Blackak of Westfield.

Committee chairpersons for the coming year

are Pauline Mortenson and Joe Dubiel, Nature; Judy Clini, Literature; Susan Strycharz and Joan Presz, Conservation; Linda Lewis and Nancy Smith, Hospitality; Alice Stein, Friendship.

Wesley Bradford will be chairman of the Telephone Committee consisting of Lillian Latimer, Pauline J. Mortenson, Rose Ayotte, Barbara Zygarowski, Sonja Norris, Barbara Ouimet, Vivian Provost, and Susan Strycharz.

The new start time for meetings is 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month (March to November) at the Captain Charles Leonard House at 663 Main Street in Agawam unless otherwise announced.

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## Agawam UNICO Planning Pancake Breakfast



THE AGAWAM CHAPTER OF UNICO has announced that it will be planning a pancake breakfast for Sunday morning, April 11th. All of the proceeds from this event will be used for the benefit of the Agawam Veterans' Memorial Committee. Standing - UNICO members Dick DiLullo, Sal Morassi, Sr., and Art Chase; seated - UNICO members Ron Lalancette and Sal Morassi, Jr., and Veterans' Agent Ruth Bitzas. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Ruehl/Bahre Family Benefit At St. John's



LAST SATURDAY, February 27th, at St. John the Evangelist Church in Agawam, area residents came out to support the Ruehl/Bahre Family Benefit. Pictured above are members of Agawam UNICO who volunteered their cooking talents for this fundraiser.



SANDY SCHAUPP AND JEFFREY M. GARRITY

## Sandy Schaupp To Marry Jeffrey M. Garrity This Sept.

Mr. & Mrs. Ulrich Schaupp of Southington, Connecticut announce the engagement of their daughter, Sandy Schaupp, to Jeffrey M. Garrity, son of Beverly Boudreau, 127 Sheri Lane, Agawam.

The future bride is a 1990 graduate of Southington High School. She graduated from Eastern Connecticut State University in 1995, earning a bachelor of arts degree in sociology and applied social relations. She is currently employed as an assistant director of an elementary childcare program in Boulder, Colorado.

The future groom is a 1990 graduate of Agawam High School. He graduated from American International College in 1996 earning a bachelor of science degree in business administration majoring in international business. He is currently employed by Panalpina Inc. in Boulder, Colorado as a contract administrator.

A September 25, 1999 wedding will be held in Connecticut.

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

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# Entertaining The Seniors At Quail Run...



STUDENTS AT THE New England Dance Center, including little Kelsey Williams (left photo), recently performed for the residents of Quail Run Estates in Agawam. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

## Greater Springfield PFLAG To Meet At Ag. Congregational

The Greater Springfield Chapter of Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays has announced that their monthly meetings will be moving to the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam. The Church is handicapped accessible.

This support group will next meet on Wednesday, March 10th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The General Membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 31st, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The Executive Committee will also meet on March 31st from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The Program Committee will meet as an arm of the Executive Committee. ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND ANY OF OUR MEETINGS.

Great Springfield PFLAG is committed to supporting parents, families, and friends of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered persons in order to help them cope with an adverse society. This group also seeks to educate and enlighten an ill-formed public, and its advocacy efforts aim to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights.

PFLAG provides an opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity. PFLAG affiliates are located in 425-plus communities across the United States and in five other countries.

For further information about the local PFLAG, contact Don at (413) 783-7709.

\* \* \*

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## ATTEND AN IMPORTANT HOME BUYER'S WORKSHOP

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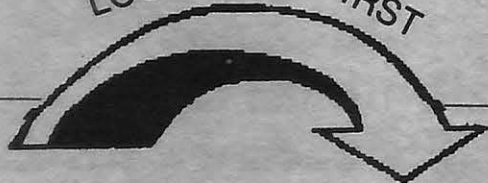
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# Church News



## Reflections...

submitted by  
**Rev. Peter Monahan**  
Pastor of the New Life  
Christian Church,  
Suffield, CT  
(413) 789-1377 or  
toll free (877) 643-9801

### Three Common Temptations: Part Two

Last week, we began to look at two instances of people who encountered temptation, and how each party handled their challenges. We were able to consider only the first of the three temptations then. To refresh our memories, let us present in summary fashion passages from the Book of Genesis and the Gospel of Matthew.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said 'You shall not eat of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, or you shall die.'" The serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." She took of its fruit and ate and gave some to her husband, and he ate.

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. The tempter came to Him and said, "If You are the Son of God, command these stones to become bread." But Jesus answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" The devil placed Him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command His angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" The devil took Him to a mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world, and he said to Him, "All these I will give You, if You fall down and worship me." Jesus said, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.'"

The second temptation presented in these two accounts is the temptation to challenge God's authority and veracity. "Did God really say...?" could be restated "How dare God tell you what to do?" Whenever we succumb to the temptation to ask, "How dare God...let my loved one die...let my marriage fail...let me lose my job...etc.", we tread on thin ice. Ironically, many people get mad at God when they violate one or more of the life rules which God sets forth in Scripture, and then trouble comes their way. Such people fail to understand that God's rules were intended to spare them heartbreak and trouble in the first place.

The final temptation presented in these passages was for each party to seize power for themselves. Adam and Eve didn't understand that the devil would never really give them the power he promised. For people are slaves to whatever masters them. Tragically, Adam and Eve forgot they already had all the power they could want or need; the fruit of the Spirit is...self-control. After they yielded to sin, they lost their power to exercise self-control.

Two stories, separated by thousands of years. Adam and Eve lost an entire world because of the bad choices they made. Jesus made no such error, and by so doing has opened up for each of us the possibility of restoration and life with real hope. The choice of whom to follow is ours to make; much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

## Vendors Wanted For St. John's Tag And Rummage Sale

Vendors are being sought for a tag and rummage sale set for 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on May 1st in the parking of St. John the Evangelist Church, Main Street, Agawam.

The size of each space will be 15 by 18 feet, and the cost is \$15. Food and drink will be available.

Interested persons may contact Betsy Ciempa at 786-5160.

## ADVERTISER NEWS

## News & Notes From Sacred Heart Church

### Children's Lenten Liturgy

There will be a children's liturgy for the Fourth Sunday of Lent to be held on **March 14th at 9:00 a.m.** We are looking for students to be readers, gift-bearers, and greeters.

Greeters are students and/or families that welcome people before Mass and thank them after Mass for worshipping with us.

If you are interested in participating more fully in this liturgy, please let Alma Benton know at CCD or call her at **786-9835**. A rehearsal will be held on Saturday, March 13th at 1:00 p.m.

### Sunday to Sunday

Our **Spiritual Video Program, Sunday to Sunday**, will continue with special programs during Lent on **Tuesday mornings** at Sacred Heart immediately after the 8:00 o'clock Mass and Thursday evenings at St. John's immediately after the 7:00 o'clock Mass.

The program provides background for the following Sunday's Scripture reading, together with some ideas on applying it to our daily lives.

Each week there is a brief bit of information on some aspect of the Biblical times, plus a variety of Catholic hymns which might increase our personal repertoire. All are welcome at either program.

### Rummage Sale

**Sale Date... Thursday, April 22nd...**

For the past few years, a group of parishioners have held a **Rummage Sale** as an excellent source of income for the parish. Last year, \$1,370 was raised.

All of this is used to give a helping hand to those in our community who are in need. To make this a success, we need **your help!** Most important, of course, is the spring and summer clothing you no longer need - as well as household linens (sheets sell fast, especially for kids in college) and other items - blankets, towels, curtains, etc.

The Attic Treasure room always adds to the profits - books, toys, small household items, craft materials, holiday decorations, are all good sellers.

We as for your help to make this a success again. Dates and times for drop-offs will be published later. If you can give us a helping hand, it would be appreciated.

Keep this date, **April 22nd**, in mind!

### Hockey Night

**Friday, March 26th**

Springfield Falcons vs. Lowell Loch Monsters. Tickets are \$6 for adults and children. For tickets, call Kathy Rondinelli at 789-1326 or Brenda McDade at 786-1545.

The deadline for tickets is **March 19th**. Order soon!

### Agawam Catholic Singles

**Saturday, March 6th:** Dinner and/or MacBeth: Suffield. Contact Carol at 789-2843.

**Thursday, March 11th:** 7:00 p.m., Monthly Meeting, St. John's Parish Center. Featured will be a performance by Irish Dancers.

Check our classifieds...

## Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational

This Sunday, March 7th (the Third Sunday in Lent), Agawam Congregational Church, located at 745 Main Street, Agawam, will celebrate Communion Sunday. The Deacons will serve the Lord's Supper at the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service.

Rev. Fuller's Sermon will be, "Spring's a Living Water," taken from Text: John 4:5-30. His Children's Message will be, "Gift of Water."

The Youth Worship Service (seventh through 12th grade) and classes begin at 9:00 a.m. All other ages meet during the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service.

\*\*\*

On Friday, March 12th, the Confirmation Class will visit Beth El Temple in Springfield for their evening service.

\*\*\*

A Hawaiian Luau Dance will be held on Friday, March 12th, from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. for all youths (seventh through 12th grade). Admission is \$4 with a canned good for the Open Pantry, or \$5 without food item.

Snacks and refreshments will be served. There will be dancing, fun, games, and prizes. DJ Chuck Malloy of "Music Celebration" will be in charge of the music.

\*\*\*

The Adult Bible Discussion Group will now meet each first and third Wednesday of the month at 7:45 p.m., following the 7:00 p.m. Midweek Service. The next Discussion Group will meet on March 17th.

All are invited to attend this informal, non-threatening, fun group. For more information, please call the church office at 786-7111.

\*\*\*

Men's Prayer Time is held weekly on Tuesdays at 7:45 a.m. This half-hour includes a devotional reading, prayer, and a time of refreshments and fellowships.

All are welcome to this very special time. For more information, contact Rev. Fuller at 786-7111.

\*\*\*

The Marie & Nick Zucco Scholarship Dinner will be held on Sunday, March 14th, at 5:00 p.m. This Deacon-sponsored dinner is free. However, all donations will be placed in the Zucco Scholarship Fund for students continuing their higher education.

Past recipients and current Junior/Senior High youth will be serving and wearing college t-shirts/sweatshirts to add to the festivities. The entertainment for the evening will be enjoyed by the very young and old.

For reservations, please call the church office at 786-7111.

## "Church News" is a weekly feature of The AAN...

\* \* \*

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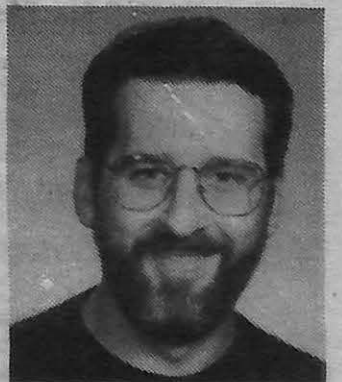
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## Church News - continued...

News And Notes From  
F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Sunday worship hours begins at 10:00 a.m. and will include the Service of Holy Communion.

The lectionary readings for March 7th, the third Sunday in Lent, will be Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 95, Romans 5:1-11, John 4:5-42. Rev. Donaldson's sermon title is "The God of Monday through Friday."

Children are welcome to attend worship with their parents; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

\*\*\*

The Board of Trustees would like to let everyone know that the church halls are available for rent on Sunday afternoon and evenings. These are perfect times for wedding or baby showers, family gatherings, or whatever you've got planned.

Call the church office, or speak to Bob Marsh, if you are interested in booking a hall.

\*\*\*

Lynn Hill will be compiling a list of Sunday School members. All parents are requested to make sure their children are registered with accurate information on Sunday, March 7th.

If you are unable to participate at that time, please leave the information in the Christian Ed mailbox.

\*\*\*

All members of the Youth Choir are reminded that the choir will be practicing each week following morning worship on Sundays.

\*\*\*

Don't forget! Next Sunday, March 14th, we will have our monthly collection for the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry. Bags of groceries and articles of clean, usable clothing are needed.

If you are unable to donate a bag of groceries, envelopes will be available in the sanctuary on the Open Pantry collection table for cash donations.

\*\*\*

Volunteers are needed to make desserts for the Open Pantry on Wednesday, March 10th. If you are able to make a dessert (brownies, sheet cake, cookies, etc.), please have your contribution to the church kitchen by noon on Wednesday.

A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in Griswold Hall.

\*\*\*

Operation Friendship will sponsor a Roast Beef Supper here at the church on Saturday, March 6th, with continuous servings from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

It is not too late to plan to attend, as reservations are not required to enjoy this delicious dinner.

\*\*\*

Suitcase Seminars will be held in Westfield on Saturday, March 20th. The courses are designed as practical training for local church leaders and are free to members of churches affiliated with the Massachusetts Conference, UCC.

Check the listing in last month's *Informer* or posted on the bulletin board for complete information.

\*\*\*

On the calendar:

**Friday, March 5th:** 7:00 p.m., Radio Club.

**Saturday, March 6th:** 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., Operation Friendship Supper.

**Sunday, March 7th:** 10:00 a.m., Communion Sunday; Children's Choir practice after worship.

**Monday, March 8th:** 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Christian Ed.

**Tuesday, March 9th:** 7:00 p.m., A.A.

**Wednesday, March 10th:** Open Pantry desserts needed; 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Choir.

**Thursday, March 11th:** 7:00 p.m., A.A.

## Corned Beef And Cabbage Dinner At United Methodist

The Agawam United Methodist Church invites one and all to its annual corned beef and cabbage supper. This supper will have corned beef, cabbage, potato, carrots, and home-prepared desserts.

Of course, there will be coffee, tea, and punch for all to please. The supper will be served between the hours of 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 13th.

Reservations may be made by calling 786-5690, although walk-ins will be welcome. Anyone who is shut in and would like one of these meals should also call 786-5690 and make it known they wish their meal to be delivered.

The Agawam United Methodist Church is located at 459 Mill St., Agawam, where it holds church services at 9:30 a.m. and like its suppers, all are welcome, but especially those of you who have not been attending any church lately.

## Valley Comm. Church Welcomes The Public

The doors of Valley Community Church are open to all those of the Christian faith and we invite all to join us as we follow the road that leads to Our Lord's crucifixion and resurrection.

The week ahead will be busy for those of us who worship and serve Our Lord in His lovely church high on the hill at 152 S. Westfield St. in Feeding Hills, MA.

We continue this week with our Lenten series conducted by Pastor Robert Loesch entitled, "Church Bells in Church History." This lecture/discussion is an informed gathering in the sanctuary from 7:00-7:45 p.m. and is open to the public.

The rest of the week begins with our 9:30 a.m. worship service Sunday, March 7th. Pastor Loesch will deliver the message, "Blessings of Discipleship" with the scripture lesson taken from Matthew 5:1-12, which contains the Beatitudes pronounced by Jesus in his Sermon on the Mount.

\*\*\*

Being the first Sunday of the month, Communion will also be served. Following the service, all are invited for fellowship and refreshments in Dunn Hall, at which time we will also celebrate March birthdays and anniversaries within our congregation.

Sunday school, Confirmation class, and Adult Bible Study commence at 11:00 a.m.

\*\*\*

Monday, March 8th will be a meeting of the Board of Administration and the Board of Missions, both at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 9th at 6:00 p.m. will be the final session of the Pastoral Search Committee.

Wednesday, March 10th at 6:15 p.m., the Junior Choir will meet to rehearse their musical, "The Show Goes On" and the Senior Choir will meet at 8:00 p.m. following the Lenten series talk, "Church Bells," which starts at 7:00 p.m.

\*\*\*

Saturday, March 13th, we will top off the week with our famous Chicken Supper held from 5:00-6:30 p.m. in Dunn Hall.

Reservations are strongly suggested for this delicious church supper. Adults are \$7 and \$3.50 for children under 12.

For reservations or to find out more about Valley Community Church and how you can become part of this growing, friendly, Christ-centered church, call (413) 786-2445.

## Catholic Women's Club Of Agawam To Hold Annual Club Show & Dinner On March 8th

The annual Club Show and Dinner of the Catholic Women's Club of Agawam will be held on March 8th in the Social Center of St. John the Evangelist Church on Main Street.

The March meeting will be dispensed with, the dinner will be at 6:30 p.m., and the show will be staged immediately after the dinner.

The cast for the show includes Dorothy Frenette, Marie LaChapel, Jackie Toussaint, Paula Raiche, Marty Jerry, Terry Longo, Pauline

Pauquette, Angela Beaudry, Jane Trevenhan, Carol Pignatare, and Charlene Moretti, chairperson.

Piano accompaniment will be by Charles Maniscalchi and Lorraine Maniscalchi is dinner chairperson. Assisting Lorraine will be Peggy Altobelli, Theresa Barlow, Raymond Bean, Betty Bury, Bernice Consolini, Lucille Harpin, Eileen Lutat, Kay Muzzi, Rosalie Ross, Vola Sloboda, Estelle Veronessi, and Ginny Zerbata.



Not sure if you (or your teens)  
will survive the teenage years?

Then you need the

**PARENT & TEEN WORKSHOP**

**Saturday, March 13 10:00-4:00**

(registration at 9:30)

**at the First Baptist Church 760 Main Street**

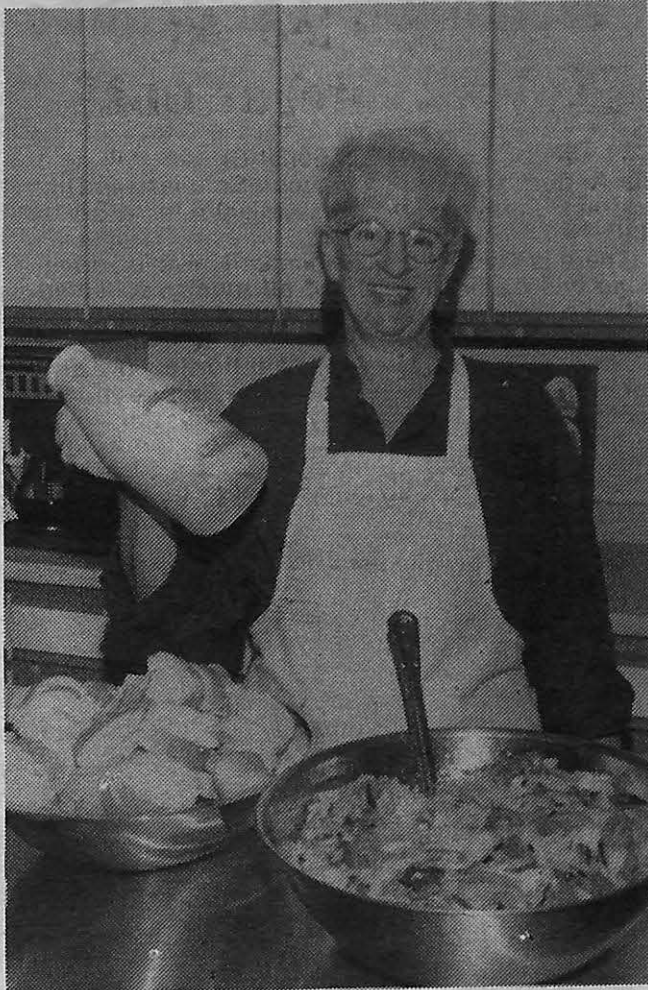
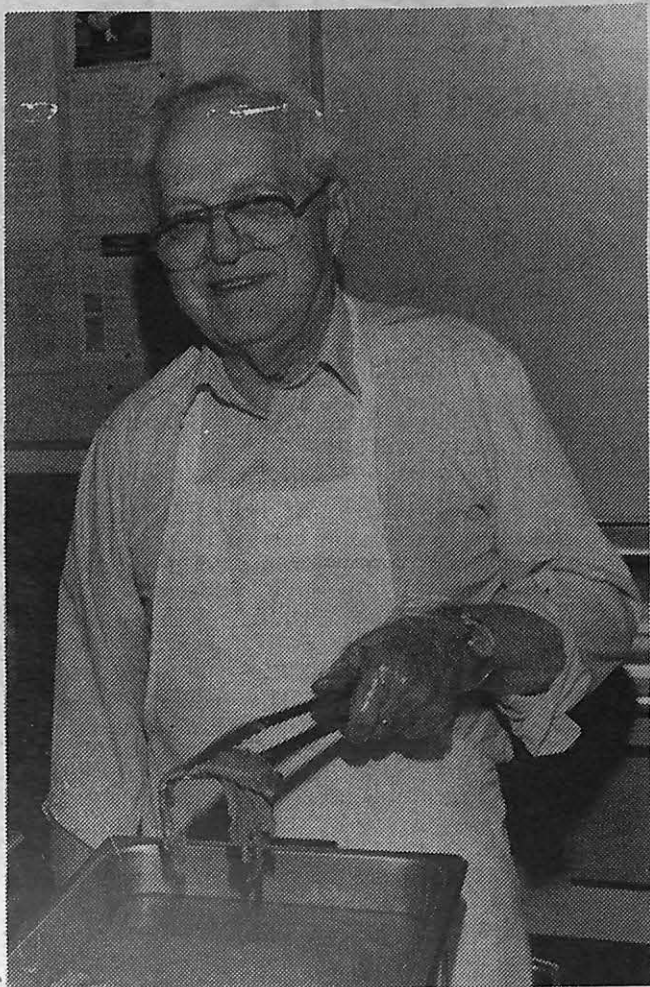
A \$5.00 per person donation is requested to cover lunch and materials.

For more information or to register, call the church at 786-7300  
or John and Nancy Barber at 786-9498.



Church News - continued...

# “A Bit O’ The Irish” At St. David’s Church...



SOME AREA RESIDENTS had an early “taste” of St. Patrick’s Day this week, as St. David’s Episcopal Church in Feeding Hills held a corned beef and cabbage dinner on Monday, March 1st. From left to right: Philip Omasta served the corned beef; “salad lady” Chris Machos; and little Amy Nicole Stefanik, who proved that you’re never too young to enjoy this Irish fare. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon...

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in Him at all times,  
O people ;  
Pour out your Hearts  
to Him, for  
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is our refuge.

- PSALMS 62:8

**St. David’s  
Episcopal Church**

699 Springfield Street • Feeding Hills, MA • (413) 786-6133

Worship Services: Saturday 5 pm & Sunday 8 am & 10 am  
Sunday School & Nursery Care: Sunday 10 am  
The Reverend Len Cowan

“Reconciling and Transforming Lives in Jesus Christ Our Lord”



**Church News - continued...****Workshop For Parents & Teens At 1st Baptist**

Are you a parent with teens? Or are you a teen with parents? If so, there's something going on that you should be aware of.

On Saturday, March 13th, the First Baptist Church of Agawam is hosting a Parent/Teen Workshop from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It will incorporate discussion, role-playing, and games, as well as some critical truths to help teenagers and their parents understand and enjoy each other more.

Dave Anderson, former Youth Director of the Agawam Baptist Church and current Director of Christian Education for the First Baptist Church of North Adams, is facilitating the workshop. Dave brings over 10 years of experience in helping and supporting youth and their families. He also brings a spirit of joy, which makes any session that he leads FUN.

The workshop is open to the public. A \$5 per person donation is requested to help offset the cost of materials and food. Lunch is included.

Pre-registration is strongly encouraged by calling the church office at 786-7300 or John or Nancy Barber at 786-9498. If you get an answering machine, leave a name, phone number, and number attending.

It is said that the teen years are survivable by both the teen and parents. With this workshop, it is hoped that you will more than survive them, but perhaps even enjoy them.

The First Baptist Church of Agawam is an American Baptist fellowship located at 760 Main Street, at the corner of Elm.

**Lenten Parish Mission At Sacred Heart**

A Lenten Parish Mission will be held at Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills from March 13th to March 18th.

The presenter is Franciscan Father Raphael Bonanno, OFM. Father Raphael will be preaching at all the weekend Masses. On Sunday evening, there will be two sessions; one at 5:30 p.m. on Men's Spirituality; one at 7:00 p.m. on Women's Spirituality.

On Monday afternoon at 5:00 p.m., there will be a special session for the high school youth (eighth to 12th grades) of the parish. Each morning from Monday to Thursday at 8:00 a.m., a Mass will be celebrated with a homily by Father Raphael.

Each evening, Monday to Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., a paralyturgical service with two presentations will be offered. On Thursday evening, the mission concludes with a solemn Mass at 7:00 p.m.

There will be refreshments after the Monday and Thursday morning and evening services at the Parish Center. This mission is open to all, as well as parishioners.

Come, bring your family and friends.

*Best hometown news...*

**Pheasant Hill Village**

25 Pheasant Hill Drive  
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

Waiting lists are being opened for 1, 2, 3 and 4 BR units.

Applications are being accepted at the office on Wednesday, March 17, 1999, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Details as to income levels, etc., when you call.

We are Federally subsidized housing, financed by MHFA. Equal Housing Opportunity.



(413) 789-1131

**Scholarship Dinner Scheduled At Ag. Congregational**

The Agawam Congregational Church will hold the Annual Marie & Nick Zucco Scholarship Dinner on Sunday, March 14th, at 5:00 p.m. in Bryan Hall.

There is no cost for this dinner. However, donations will be accepted, and all money collected will go to the Zucco Scholarship Fund for students continuing their higher education.

There will be entertainment following the dinner that all ages may enjoy. Please call the church office at 786-7111 to make your reservation.

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

**St. Thomas School Slates Fundraising Auction For Mar. 12th**

The St. Thomas School P.T.O. in West Springfield is having a fundraising auction on March 12th (snow date: March 13th). Admission is \$2, which includes a wine and cheese preview from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Over 100 donated items will be auctioned off, including a 1/2 ct.tw. diamond earrings from Han-noush Jewelers, autographed sports memorabilia, collectibles, restaurant, and golf certificates.

There's something for everyone. **Adults only, please.** The auction will start promptly at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Thomas School Gymnasium. Cash and checks only.

**AGAWAM PUBLIC MARKET****USDA CHOICE**

Special Cure Brisket Corned Beef (Flat Cut) \$2.49 Lb.

Store Made Corned Spare Ribs (Limited Supply) \$1.99 Lb.

Boneless Spoon Roast \$2.69 Lb.

Boneless Center Cut Sirloin

Steaks \$2.99 Lb.

Fresh Ground Chuck

5 Lbs. Or More \$1.69 Lb.

10 Lbs. Or More \$1.39 Lb.

Fresh Ground Round (Extra Lean)

5 Lbs. Or More \$2.49 Lb.

10 Lbs. Or More \$1.99 Lb.

**\*\*\* PORK SALE \*\*\***

Center Cut Pork Chops \$1.99 Lb.

Center Cut Pork Roast \$1.89 Lb.

Loin End Roast \$1.49 Lb.

Boneless Roast (Cut From Loin Or Rib

End) \$1.99 Lb.

Country Style Ribs \$1.19 Lb.

Fresh Ground Pork \$1.69 Lb.

Grade "A" Chicken Breast

Whole \$1.29 Lb.

Split \$1.49 Lb.

**DAIRY & FROZEN**

Hood Orange Juice (1/2 Gal. - Plastic) \$1.59

Hood Half & Half (Pints) 89¢

Hood 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon) \$2.19

Grade "A" Jumbo Eggs (Doz.) 99¢

**DELI**

Land O' Lakes White American Cheese \$2.99 Lb.

Land O' Lakes Pepperoni Cheese \$2.99 Lb.

Russer German Bologna \$1.39 Lb.

Celebrity Imported Ham \$2.99 Lb.

Willow Brook Deluxe Turkey

Breast \$1.99 Lb.

Russer Low Salt Ham \$3.49 Lb.

Mother Goose Liverwurst \$2.69 Lb.

Russer Cooked Salami \$1.99 Lb.

Fresh Seafood Salad \$3.99 Lb.

**SEAFOOD**

Scrod Fillets \$4.99 Lb.

Frozen Crab Meat (11.3 Oz. Can) \$4.99

**PRODUCE**

Bananas 49¢ Lb.

California Navel Oranges (Doz.) \$1.99

Honey Tangerines 4 For \$1.00

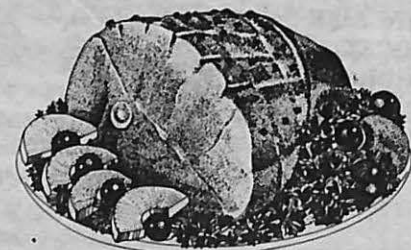
New Green Cabbage 29¢ Lb.

California Carrots (1 Lb. Bag) 39¢

Long Green Celery (Bunch) 89¢

All-Purpose Potatoes (10 Lb. Bag) \$1.29

AA Red Potatoes 39¢ Lb.



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# Spotlight On Business



## Travel Talk...

by Lori Keeley, CTC  
Travel Connections, LTD  
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(413) 732-1313

### How About An Extended Motorcoach Tour?

If you are thinking about travel abroad this summer, why not let someone else do the driving for you. An escorted motorcoach is the perfect way to sightsee in Europe.

With so many companies offering these tours, how do you know which one to choose? The following tips will help guide you to decide what tour is best for you:

A. Go to your local travel agent and pick up some brochures on European tours.

B. Ask questions; be specific about the time of year you plan to travel.

C. Book early. Many tours will fill up in late winter for summer departures.

D. Read the brochure. The front cover will tell you if you are looking at a budget tour or a first-class tour.

E. See how many meals are included, where the hotels are located, and what sights are included in the package.

F. If you are elderly and get tired easily, try not to cover too many countries. The more ground you cover, the more you must pack and unpack your bags.

G. Consider trip cancellation insurance; this is one sure way to get your money back if something goes wrong before you depart.

Escorted tours offer a safe, convenient way to travel, meet new friends, and enjoy the sights.

I want to thank the Agawam Lioness Club for inviting me to be their guest speaker at their monthly meeting. We had a great time and talked about different destinations and travel products available.

The Lioness are a great bunch of hard-working women who volunteer their time at different fundraising events for eyecare research. Thanks again!

For tips on where to spend your vacation, be sure to check Lori Keeley's "Travel Talk..." in The AAN!

\* \* \* \* \*

This message is brought to you by

The NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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Toll Free: (877) 643-9801

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## MERCY AND REWARD

READ: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

This is a faithful saying... that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. —1 Timothy 1:15

When the great Puritan preacher Thomas Hooker (1586-1647) was on his deathbed, a friend tried to console him by saying, "Brother Hooker, you are going to receive your reward." "No, no!" he breathed. "I go to receive mercy!"

In sharp contrast, A. W. Tozer recalled the prayer of a man who had the idea that he could earn heaven as a reward for trying to keep the Ten Commandments. It went something like this: "Now, God, I admit I have not kept number 1 and number 3 and number 7 and number 9. But remember, Father, that I have kept all the others."

How foolish! This man failed to see that if he had broken one commandment, he was guilty of breaking them all (Jas. 2:10). His works were earning him condemnation, not salvation.

As the apostle Paul reviewed his 30-plus years of sacrificial service, he saw himself as the "chief" of sinners and totally dependent on God's mercy. Although he undoubtedly anticipated the rewards he would receive, he gloried only in the cross (Gal. 6:14). There Jesus paid the price for sin so that everyone who trusts in Him will receive mercy.

The wonder of God's mercy and grace! Someday I will "go to receive mercy." I hope you will too. —HVL

'Tis mercy all, immense and free,  
For, O my God, it found out me;

Amazing love! How can it be  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me. —Wesley

GRACE IS GETTING WHAT WE DO NOT DESERVE.  
MERCY IS NOT RECEIVING WHAT WE DO DESERVE.



## COMMON SENSE

with

Raymond Rose  
THE PIONEER GROUP

### Priorities

### How To Set Them...Stick To Them...Change Them

Priorities are the key to managing your time and yourself. Many of us make "To Do" lists, but few of us take the time to weigh the items that are on the list for their level of importance and urgency.

Without this critical step of setting priorities, having a "To Do" list is useless. We may seem to be constantly busy, yet we waste our time away on things that don't bring us closer toward accomplishing our major/important goals.

#### HOW TO SET DAILY PRIORITIES

Make a list of everything you should do tomorrow, complicated or routine. Don't worry about the order or the importance of each task, just list them all. Now, weigh each task for its relative importance. As yourself...

- Which tasks have a high payoff...ones that will give me the best investment of time and energy?

- Which ones are essential to my goals?

- Which ones are essential to the goals of my family and my business?

- Which ones can only be done by me...and no one else?

Use this information to number the items on your list, number one for top priority, number two for second-highest priority, etc. VERY IMPORTANT...You must take sufficient time for this critically important step. If you rush through it, you'll wind up with a "To Do" list that does not reflect your true priorities. Also, it's not necessary

to split hairs. Don't agonize over if something should be number one or number two, just make sure that both of these items are towards the very top of your list.

#### ACTING ON PRIORITIES...SHORT & LONG TERM

Regarding daily priorities, each each morning review your goals/priorities. You must start your day with the top-priority jobs, and then stick with them! Otherwise, lower priority tasks will eat you up. ALWAYS, ALWAYS, ALWAYS delegate low priority jobs.

If you absolutely cannot delegate them, schedule a five- to 10-minute break to devote to them. If these smaller tasks take more than 10 minutes, you have to set them aside, and schedule another short break later on for them.

Set long-range as well as daily priorities. If you know what your long-term goals are, you can make sure that your daily actions are building towards these goals. You will get more satisfaction out of each day, and you'll be more likely to stick with your plans. To identify long range goals, think about...

- What makes you happy? Do you prefer more or less responsibility? What activities (personal and business) bring you the most pleasure. What would you enjoy learning more about?

- Where do your skills lie? What do you do better than anyone else?

- What areas need strengthening? What important areas have you been avoiding because you have been afraid that you will fail? What skills will you need in order to succeed in those areas? What are the trends? Are more and more activities in life becoming computerized? Are you anticipating this?

- Are you getting the cooperating of others? Don't be shy about selling others on your priorities. To accomplish this, make sure that others know how important this priority is to you.

On your daily list of priorities, always include items that will move you towards your long-term goals, and be sure to take action each day. You can't always close the door on all interruptions, but you can find 15 minutes to give some thought to your future. After all, no one cares more about you than you do.

Continued Next Week...

Raymond Rose's column, "Common Sense," is a regular feature of the ADVERTISER NEWS...

\* \* \* \* \*

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Agawam



Spotlight On Business - continued...

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Financing Options...

If you're planning to purchase a home, check out financing options. The number and variety of financing options may seem overwhelming at first, but most fit in one of these categories:

- Adjustable-rate mortgage (ARM). A loan with an interest rate that fluctuates according to the movements of a predetermined index.
- Conventional mortgages are labeled as such to differentiate them from government-back loans such as FHA or VA loans.
- Farmers Home Administration (FmHA). These government loans are available to persons of moderate to very low income in rural or non-metropolitan areas.
- FHA-insured loan. Insured by the Federal Housing Authority, these loans will insure a mortgage on a new or existing single-family house for a high percent of the property value. Down payments are low and loans are assumable.
- Fixed-rate mortgage. A loan with an interest rate and monthly payments that do not vary.
- VA-guaranteed loan. Guaranteed by the Veterans Administration, these loans are available to eligible veterans to buy, refinance, construct, or repair a home.

For more real estate financing information, call Pam Savioli at (413) 748-7565.

## Michael J. Janosco, Jr. Has Joined Mgmt. Of Westfield Bank

Westfield Bank President Donald A. Williams recently announced that Michael J. Janosco, Jr. CPA has joined the Bank as Vice President, Treasurer, and Chief Financial Officer.

In this capacity, Mr. Janosco will be responsible for the overall financial operations of the bank, including budget preparation, regulatory filings, and bank investments.

Prior to joining Westfield Bank, Mr. Janosco was a Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for Primary Bank in Peterborough, New Hampshire. In addition, he has over 25 years of accounting experience as a Partner with KPMG Peat Marwick.

Mr. Williams notes, "We are extremely pleased to have Mike join our team. His years of experience will benefit Westfield Bank as we continue to grow into one of the largest community banks in the area."

Mr. Janosco is a member of the Massachusetts Society of CPA's and American Institute of CPA's. He was a member of the faculty at the Center for Financial Studies at Fairfield University.

A graduate of New England School of Accounting, Mr. Janosco is a Certified Public Accountant. He resides in Sterling, Massachusetts with his wife, Nancy, and two children.

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**Timely Tips On  
How To Manage  
Your Finances**

by **Sue N. Alvanos**  
Personal Financial Advisor  
American Express  
534-3883.

### What Women Should Know About Growing A Business

You've successfully launched your business and no doubt learned a thing or two in the process. But with start-up issues behind you, it's time to make some decisions about the future of your venture.

For example, will you need to grow to keep your business competitive? If so, how will you manage growth-related issues like financing and employee benefits? The following are some important considerations as you plan for what lies ahead.

**To grow or not to grow.** Sooner or later most healthy businesses face the challenge of growth. In fact, according to the National Foundation for Women Business Owners, employment growth by women-owned firms exceeds the national average in nearly every region of the country and in nearly every major industry.

If you have consciously decided not to grow your business, are you staying small by choice or because you fear the risks of expansion? Consider the following as you go through the growth decision-making process.

**Revisit your personal and business goals** - Do you see your business as merely a way to earn a living? Do you have dreams of becoming a major

competitor in the industry?

**Examine your level of commitment** - Have the big dreams you had when you started your company given way to worry about how you will balance your business and personal lives?

**Determine if growth is optional** - Oftentimes, business demands aggressive players - particularly if you compete in an industry that changes rapidly. Sometimes there is no alternative to risking growth.

**Refine your decision-making techniques** - Are you making your growth decision based on intuition or on hard data? By using decision-making techniques like cost benefit analysis, you won't have to rely solely on your gut for formulating important growth decisions.

**Managing and financing growth.** Most often, growth requires you to change the way you think and run your business.

**Make good staffing decisions** - Periods of unplanned and rapid growth can create situations where potential hires are not properly screened and new hires are not adequately trained.

**Be prepared to meet customer demands** - Even your most loyal customers will go elsewhere with their business if their needs are not met.

**Make sure adequate technological systems are in place** - Make sure you have the right technology to fill customer orders, keep current inventories and maintain accurate records.

**Avoid cash flow problems** - If sales exceed your cash income, you will experience cash flow management problems. Good cash management means:

- Knowing when, where, and how your cash needs will occur.
- Recognizing the best sources for meeting additional cash needs.
- Being prepared to meet those needs by keeping good relationship with bankers and other creditors.

Continued Next Week...

\* \* \* \* \*

*Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!*

\* \* \* \* \*



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**Spotlight On Business - continued...****Legal Memo**

by

**Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.**  
546 Springfield St., F.H.  
(413) 786-9454



**Contract**  
**Unmarried Cohabitants**

Where two unmarried cohabitants entered into a written agreement which attempted to define the rights of the parties as to services rendered and property acquired during the relationship, a Judge held that the agreement was valid and enforceable.

Unmarried cohabitants may lawfully contract concerning property, financial, and other matters relevant to their relationship. Such a contract is subject to the rules of contract law and is valid even if expressly made on contemplation of a common living arrangement.

Although nothing is intended to derogate from the clear distinction made between the legal rights of married and unmarried cohabitants, nor should anything be taken as a suggestion or intimation that the Judge is retreating from prior expressions regarding the importance of the institution of marriage and the strong public interest in ensuring that its integrity is not threatened, common law marriage in this Commonwealth is not recognized.

"The principal purpose of the agreement was to clarify the parties' rights with respect to the division of assets acquired during their relationship in the event that they should separate. The parties' rights were established as of the date of the

execution of the agreement in 1989. That the defendant in 1992 exercised his right under the agreement to request that the plaintiff leave the house, did not alter the terms of the agreement, nor did the defendant's request establish that the plaintiff's fidelity was the sole foundation upon which the agreement rested."

The Judge concluded that the plaintiff and the defendant were free to contract with respect to property, financial, and other matters relevant to their relationship, and that the specific agreement at issue is valid and enforceable. It is undisputed that the parties, both adults, had the capacity to contract and understood each other's financial worth prior to the execution of the agreement. Moreover, the plaintiff was advised to seek counsel regarding the agreement and chose not to do so. There was no claim of fraud, overreaching, or unconscionability. The plaintiff is employed and makes no assertion that as a result of the agreement, she will be unable to support herself. The Judge found that the plaintiff was not forced or coerced to sign the agreement.

Finally, the Judge noted that the plaintiff voluntarily entered into a relationship with the defendant, and continued to live with him for many years despite her knowledge that he was unlikely to marry her. The agreement she signed essentially tracked the living arrangement she had shared with the defendant for 25 years, in which they maintained separate legal and financial identities, and did not merge their financial affairs.

"Judgement is to be entered declaring the agreement to be valid and enforceable and disposing of the damages claim in the defendant's favor."

**Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts. If you have a legal question, Attorney Ferrigno will attempt to address the same in this column. Please send any questions to the address listed above.**

## Seven Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall Agents Inducted Into Carlson Chairmen's Club

Charles Reiter, President of Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall/Better Homes and Gardens, is pleased to announce that seven agents from the firm were recently honored and inducted into the CARLSON CHAIRMEN'S CLUB for their top sales production in 1998 at a brunch given by Carlson Real Estate/Better Homes and Gardens at the Burlington Marriott.

Sales Agents had to achieve either \$10 million in 1998 sale's production or close over 42.5 units to qualify for this award. The following agents from Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall were inducted into the 1998 CARLSON CHAIRMEN'S CLUB: Denise DeSellier, Bridget Donato, Karen King, Shawn Mitchell, Sue Moore, Roger Trombly, and Colleen Westberg.

By achieving this status, the Agents will also

enjoy an all-expense paid trip to the 1999 Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Convention to be held on March 23, 1999 in New Orleans where agents, brokers, and staff will attend real estate seminars, enjoy a technology and product exhibition, as well as hear Elizabeth Dole speak at the Convention awards ceremony.

Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall is the largest real estate company in the Greater Springfield area with 240 Sales Associates in 14 offices located in Chicopee, Feeding Hills, East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Palmer, Sixteen Acres, South Hadley, Springfield, West Springfield, Westfield, and Wilbraham. They are a division of Carlson/Better Homes and Gardens and are owned by GMAC Home Services.

*For photo coverage in the Advertiser News, call AAN photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053; however, please give him at least 48 hours' notice prior to your event. Thank you...*

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## Free Homebuying Seminar Offered For Veterans & Reservists

**THE PIONEER GROUP** is sponsoring a free public service workshop for veterans and reservists entitled "Buying a Home Using the VA Loan Program." It will be held Saturday, March 27th.

Because the previous workshops have been filled to capacity, the public is now invited to attend either the morning session (9:30 to 11:00 a.m.) or the early afternoon session (12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m.). The seminars will take place at the West Springfield Professional Center, located at 1111 Elm Street, Suite 21, in West Springfield, MA.

Topics to be discussed will include understanding the many benefits of the VA Loan Program for both first-time and move-up homebuyers; understanding points and closing costs and how to minimize these fees; understanding seller contributions; the difference between a bank and a mortgage company, and which one offers the better value; and much more.

The information contained in this 90-minute seminar may save today's first-time and move-up buyers thousands of dollars.

Speakers at the workshop will include Donald Thompson, a Principal of **THE PIONEER GROUP**, and Raymond Rose, a retired mortgage banker.

The workshop is free of charge and reservations are suggested (their last seminar was filled to capacity). For more information, please listen to the recorded message at 846-0950.

Those that attend the workshop will receive a free copy of their credit report along with an application for a free VA mortgage pre-approval.

## THE PIONEER GROUP Has Site On The World Wide Web

Need a glossary of real estate firms? ... want to shop for houses from the comforts of home? ... looking for mortgage information? You can find all of this, and much more, on **THE PIONEER GROUP's** site on the World Wide Web.

Company Principals, Raymond Rose and Donald Thompson, claim that it is one of the easiest web sites to tour in the real estate industry. Recently, Gary Lucia was promoted as its company's Internet Administrator.

"As Exclusive Buyer's Agents, we firmly believe that it is critical to service our clients with the highest levels of professionalism and care. Our web site allows our current clients, and any new clients, to shop for houses at their convenience. Also, we have complete information regarding school systems and town demographics available," Rose stated.

The web address is [www.pioneer-group.com](http://www.pioneer-group.com).

For more information, please e-mail them by using their web site ... or simply call 731-6800.

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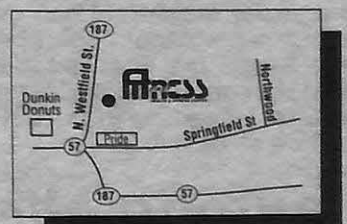
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# For Your Health

*It's Only Natural*



**Chiropractic Care**  
by  
**Dr. Tami Nelson**  
Chiropractic  
Physician  
Hampden County  
Chiropractic  
850 Springfield St.  
Feeding Hills  
786-4820

Editor's Note: This week's column is courtesy of Sharon Broggi, massage therapist.

## Low Back Pain...

Low back pain is one of the most common complaints presented to massage therapists. It is a complaint that massage therapy can address fairly effectively.

In general, a client who requests general relaxation with specific focus on the low back will receive a full body massage. Full body is usually good for everyone, because the ongoing stress of physical pain in one part of the body is reflected everywhere else.

In addition, we relax other areas of chronic tension which may have a direct bearing on the cause of the low back pain. However, massage time is always limited, and work must be prioritized according to both its effectiveness and the client's preferences.

The low back itself is addressed in three specifics. The first is obviously the lumbar area, what we usually think of as the low back. The major muscles worked are the supports along the spine - erector spinae on the surface and quadratus lumborum deeper.

The muscles on the low ribs are also worked as they frequently refer pain down the body. While this is not always the most effective work to treat an individual's problem, it is the obvious starting point.

The second focus is on the sacral area. This includes the sacrum (the large triangle on the end of the spine), its joint to the pelvis (at the low back), and muscles attaching to the sacrum, which are the hip rotators. Tight muscles here pull at the sacrum and add stress which is felt in the low back.

I have had some clients tell me that they had pain in the low back, and then indicate their hips or buttocks. If the pain is actually felt there, it is NOT the low back, it is the buttocks, often referred to as the glutes (for the gluteal muscles). That is a legitimate area to have massage work on and an effective therapist will address the three gluteal muscles, the piriformis, the the deep hip rotators. In point of fact, pain can be referred from the low back to the glutes, but do not hesitate to be specific about where you actually feel the pain.

The third area indicated for low back pain is the abdomen. I usually leave this until a couple of sessions on the back and glutes prove to be ineffective. The entire abdomen is worked gently, and some deeper work may be done carefully on the hip flexor known as the psoas.

Sometimes this is simply one more technique that helps but doesn't actually solve the problem, and other times it works like a charm. If the source of the problem is here, psoas work can be the solution.

Therapeutic massage work is as deep as you feel and comfortable, and no deeper. If you find yourself holding your breath, the work is probably too deep. Try taking a deep breath and letting it out slowly. If that does not ease intensity, tell your therapist to lighten up. Lighter work can have a positive effect on your tension level; however, it will take longer to work through a particular problem.

Keep in mind that low back pain has many possible causes. Be sure to have your back assessed by a chiropractor to rule out causes that would contraindicate massage. When the cause is muscular, massage can do wonders, as long as the proper muscles are worked.

Sometimes the back muscles are tight in response to another problem entirely. In that case, massaging the back can ease symptoms, but it won't solve anything, though sometimes that is enough for the time being. Reduction of pain and easier movement can go a long way as you look for a permanent solution.

Sharon Broggi is a licensed massage therapist located at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. She can be reached at the office at 786-4820.

*Be sure to check our classified ads in each edition...*

\*\*\*

## Support Groups, Courses, And Programs At Noble Hospital

### SUPPORT GROUPS

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** Sunday evenings, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital, 115 West Silver Street, Westfield.

Free of charge. All are welcome.

**Stroke Support Group:** Wednesdays, March 10th and 24th, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. In the Bronson Rehabilitation Center Dining Room at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals recovering from a stroke, spouses, caregivers, and other interested persons.

On March 10th, the topic will be "Post-Stroke Depression." On March 24th, the topic will be "Adapted Leisure Activities."

**Crohn's and Colitis:** Tuesday, March 16th, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to people with Crohn's or colitis and their support persons.

Claire Tatro, a Certified Hypnotherapist, will speak on "Coping Strategies and Stress Management Tactics."

**Diabetes:** Tuesday, March 23rd, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals who have diabetes and their support persons.

**Better Breathers:** Wednesday, March 10th, 2:00 p.m. In the Third Floor Cardiopulmonary Classroom at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals with respiratory or pulmonary difficulties and their support persons.

Thomas A. Tremblay, R.R.T., C.P.F.T., will address "Stress and Relaxation for the Patient with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease."

Please call 572-5081 with any questions.

### COURSES/PROGRAMS/CLINICS

**Free Athletic Injury Clinic:** Thursday, March 18th, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. At Noble Hospital's Sports and Rehabilitation Center, 76 Main Street, Westfield.

On the first, third, and fifth Thursdays of every month, a certified athletic trainer will evaluate athletic injuries. Then, based upon the evaluation,

remedial exercises or physician referral may be recommended.

For an appointment, call 562-3522.

**Sinus Problems - Diagnosing and Managing:** Wednesday, March 10th, 6:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital.

This lecture with R. Gopal Malladi, M.D., F.A.C.S., will be free of charge. However, seating is limited and advance registration is required.

To register, call Noble Hospital's HEALTH BEAT at (413) 568-2328.

**Smoking Cessation - "Forgetting Cigarettes":** Sundays, March 14th and 21st, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. In Conference Room B at Noble Hospital.

This two-part program with Joseph Barako, R.N., Certified Hypnotherapist, uses hypnosis to eliminate your desire for smoking and allows you to forget cigarettes forever.

The registration fee for this program is \$40 and is paid the evening of the first session. Seating is limited, and pre-registration is necessary.

To pre-register or for more information, call Noble Hospital's HEALTH BEAT at (413) 568-2328.

**Cosmetic/Plastic Surgery with Dr. Gary Russolillo:** Tuesday, March 16th, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. In Conference Room B at Noble Hospital.

Gary Russolillo, M.D., will present a lecture about Body Contouring, Surgeries, Lip Enhancements, Facial Surgeries, and Skin Care Procedures. Also included will be a live chemical peel demonstration.

The presentation will be followed by a complimentary personal consultation. Registration is free, and seating is limited.

Pre-registration is required. To register, call Noble Hospital's HEALTH BEAT at (413) 568-2328.

**CPR Course:** Wednesdays, March 17th and 24th, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. In the Education Department/Ground Floor at Noble Hospital.

This two-part course provides American Heart Association Adult, Child, and Infant Certification. The cost of the course is \$45.

To register or obtain more information, call Noble Hospital's Education Department at (413) 572-5172.

*"For Your Health" is a regular feature of The AAN and is just one more reason why you turn our pages...*

\*\*\*\*\*

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**For Your Health - continued...****Fitness Tips...****Yoga - Adding To Your Routine**

by Carmela A. Kirk, R.N.  
Fitness Director, Fitness First

Flexibility is an integral part of your workout. I've discussed before the importance of stretching out after your workout. After your muscle does all that contracting and building up of acids, the best way to combat soreness is with a good stretch.

This seems to be a very common area people tend to skip. If you take a class, we always finish with a good, five-minute stretch afterward. After one hour of exercise, sometimes pretty intense exercise, it makes sense that this five minutes is not enough. It is a guide to follow. We frequently remind you, "This five minutes at the end of class is not enough."

Yoga is a way to make space around your joints and to become more flexible. We could all use that! Yoga combines breathing and stretching and proper posturing to include full body relaxation.

If you've never experienced this, it is a must. Yoga encourages you to look inward, developing awareness by feeling and sensing. Yoga postures create new alignment and the proper functioning of the body and organs. The actual yoga movements help to develop muscle balance and movement stability, as well as flexibility and relaxation.

There are many different styles and techniques of yoga that are applicable to any fitness program. We are trying something new this week called "Power Yoga." It involves the breathing and stretching and holding of postures, but also incorporates some form of strength training in a non-threatening, non-impact way.

We were told to be prepared to relax and sweat. I'm not sure what to expect, but I can tell you I am looking forward to it.

I practiced yoga for about a year, then I stopped. I'm not sure why I stopped; probably too busy to relax. I've since learned, when you're too busy to practice your favorite relaxation technique, you're too busy. I would go once a week and breathe, stretch, and relax.

I was constantly amazed at how much (excuse my language) CRAP I was carrying around in my head! I would leave there lighter, happier, and more easy going than ever. I still had the same concerns, the same deadlines, the same worries, but they just got put into perspective.

I got rid of all the extra hustle and bustle and was able to concentrate so much better on what I needed to concentrate on. It was WONDERFUL! If you've never tried yoga, or if you haven't found a relaxation technique that works for you, try it. All you risk is gaining some flexibility and a little peace of mind.

**Chronic Pain Support Group Announces Its Meetings For March**

The Weldon Center for Rehabilitation at Mercy Hospital sponsors a free Chronic Pain Support Group for sufferers, their families, and friends.

The next meetings will be conducted March 9th and 23rd, 1:00-2:30 p.m., in room 224 of the Weldon Center, 233 Carew St.

The group is led by Glenn Fagen, Ph.D., a clinical neuropsychologist at the Weldon Center. Dr. Fagen will discuss new technologies, theories, and treatments for chronic pain; participants will have the opportunity to share experiences and learn pain management techniques.

For more information, call Dr. Fagen, (413) 748-6996.

**Natural Family Planning At Mercy**

A series of natural family planning (NFP) classes begins Wednesday, March 17th, 6:30 p.m., at Mercy Hospital, 271 Carew St.

The series includes three two-hour group sessions and two private consultations with a certified NFP instructor.

NFP is a holistic family planning option based on understanding and recognizing the natural cycles of fertility and infertility. It offers couples a lifelong method of achieving or avoiding pregnancy without the use of drugs, devices, or surgical interventions.

Registration is required; a sliding fee scale is available. For more information and to register, call (413) 748-7265.

**Agawam Health Dept. Seeks Donation Of Various Medical Items**

The Agawam Health Department has a medical supply loan closet. In our closet, we have walkers, crutches, elevated toilet seats, and wheelchairs, but only in limited supplies.

Therefore, if any resident in town has any of the items mentioned above in good working condition and would like to donate them to our closet, we would greatly appreciate it.

To borrow from our closet or donate to, you may contact our office at 786-0400, ext. 207. These items will be lent out on a short-term basis. If you need these items long-term, your insurance carrier should cover the cost of any purchase simply with a physician's order.

**Hearing Screenings At Senior Center**

Mercy Hospital's Weldon Mobile Hearing Center will conduct free hearing screenings and hearing aid checks at the Agawam Senior Center on March 8th at 9:00 a.m. and March 29th at 9:00 a.m.

In addition, full diagnostic hearing tests, evaluations, fittings, sales and service of hearing aids, and assistive-listening devices, can be scheduled on a fee-for-service basis.

The hearing van's audiology equipment is operated by nationally-certified audiologists from the Weldon Hearing Center at Mercy Hospital.

For a reservation, call the Agawam Senior Center at 786-0400, ext. 242 or 243.

**Diabetes Program At Mercy Hospital**

Newly diagnosed diabetics will benefit from a four-part educational series being conducted in February at Mercy Hospital.

The free series will take place March 8th-11th, 2:30-3:30 p.m., in the hospital's Deliso Conference Center, 299 Carew St. Sessions will provide an introduction to diabetes, dietary guidelines, a review of diabetes medications, and an overview of complications related to the condition.

Registration is required; call Mercy Hospital's Patient Education Department, (413) 748-9024, and leave your name and telephone number.

**Breast Cancer Support Group At Mercy Hosp.**

The Breast Cancer Support Group, sponsored by the Women's Pavilion at Mercy Hospital, will meet March 16th, 7:00-8:30 p.m., in the Women's Pavilion, 299 Carew St.

The group is open to women who have experienced mastectomy and other breast surgery, or who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. Family and friends are welcome to attend and share their experiences and concerns.

For more information, call the Women's Pavilion, (413) 748-9080.

**Your Back And Your Health**

by Dr. Joseph  
S. Schlaffer  
Schlaffer  
Chiropractic Offices  
192 Shoemaker Lane  
Agawam

**The Popularity Of Chiropractic**

Why has chiropractic become so popular? What is it about this healing art, science, and philosophy that in less than 100 years, has made it the most widely used natural health profession in the world?

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Our bodies possess an inborn intelligence, a wisdom that controls and coordinates all body function and allows good health. Let's examine health and this "wisdom of the body" concept further.

Let me ask you - Are you healthy? What is health? Is health merely feeling good? Is someone who "feels good" one day and is stricken with a heart attack, suffers a stroke, or is diagnosed with cancer the next really healthy while they're feeling good? Of course not! Health is much more than the absence of symptoms. Disease occurs when there is a lack of health - that is, a lack of organization and coordination of function (physiology).

So many forms of stress threaten us daily: the onslaught of the elements; the bacteria, virus, pollen, mold, and fungi in the air; cancer cells, with their deranged genetic instruction; pollution and chemical; cuts, bumps, and bruises; school, work, marriage, babies, bills, a mortgage - and we must adapt to them all. For if we did not...

Science has demonstrated that the responsibility of the brain and nerve system is to control and coordinate the function of all cells, tissues and systems in the body and allow you to adapt to the hostile environment you live in. This brain, spinal cord, and the billions of fibers that emerge from it, allow you to express health. It reaches and touches every nook and cranny of your body, and through an inborn intelligence uses its vast communication system to control, coordinate, and organize all body parts and functions to create a living, adapting, healthy being.

Lack of health occurs when there is an interference to the nerve system. This interference is commonly caused by the vertebral subluxation complex (VSC), also known as spinal nerve stress. Chiropractors are trained to detect and eliminate VSC allowing a return to good healthy naturally.

Today, millions of people throughout the world visit their neighborhood doctor of chiropractic - to regain health, and to stay healthy.

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\* \* \*

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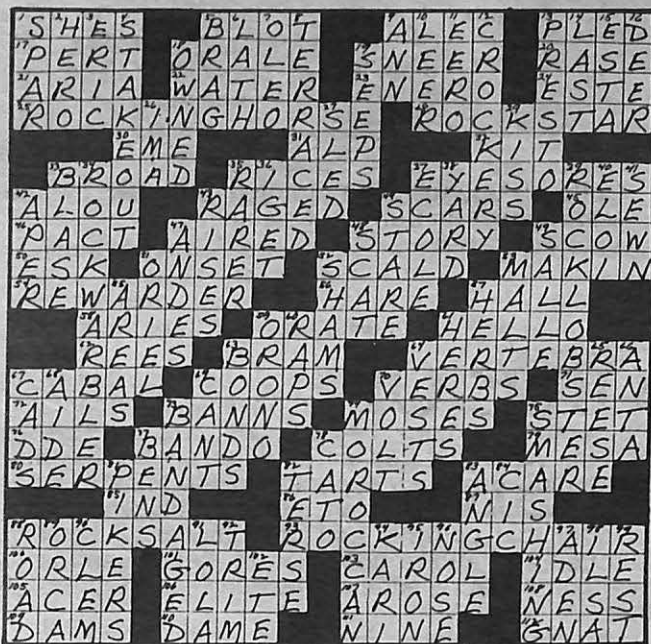
*College Highway Medical Associates is a  
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# Arts

## Last Week's Solution...



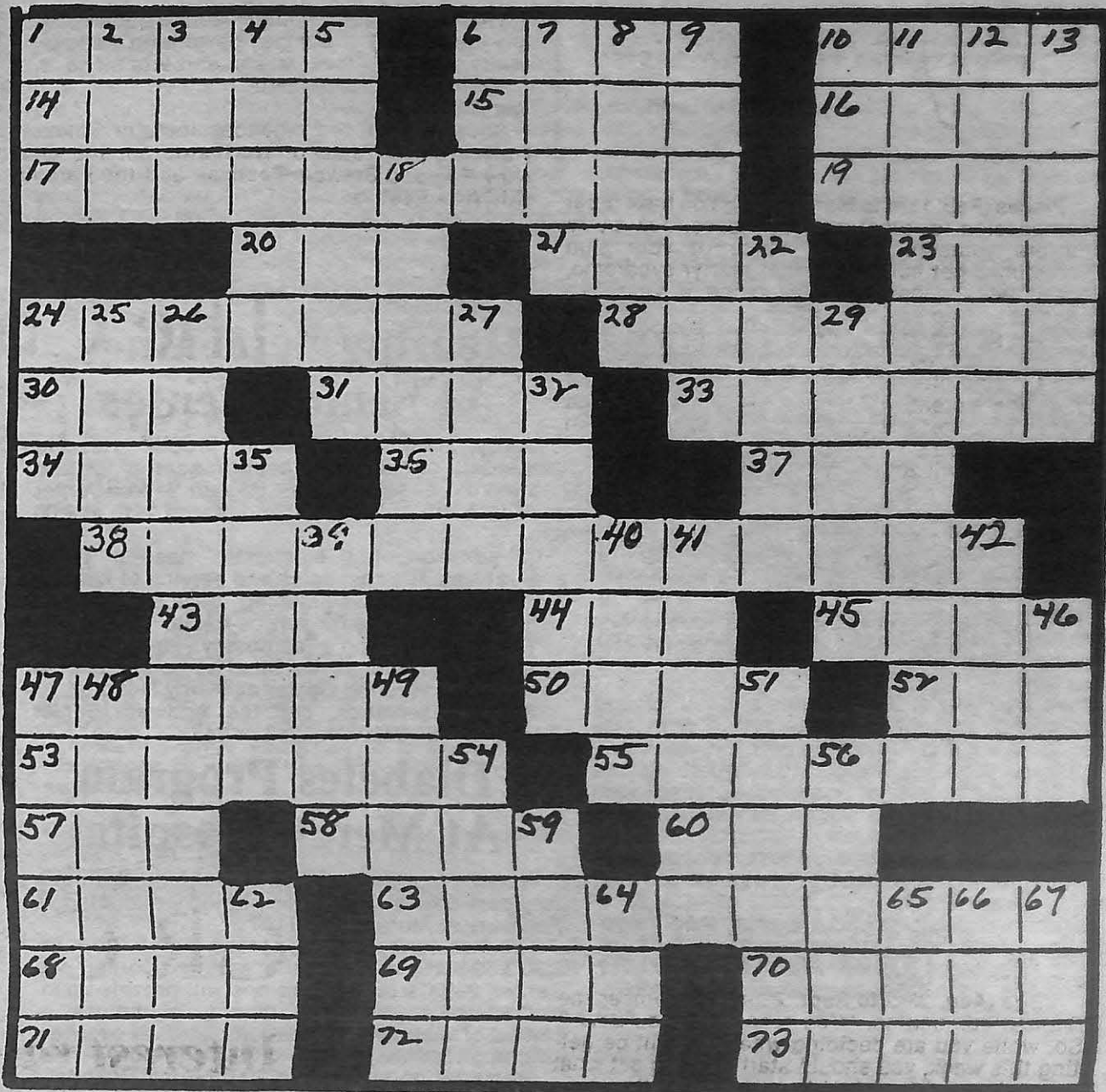
### ACROSS

- 1 Chagall and Connelly
- 6 Omani
- 10 Mast adjunct
- 14 "Take —" (receptionist's request)
- 15 Ship (Japanese)
- 16 Choir member
- 17 Student of stars
- 19 Treaty org.
- 20 Andy Capp's home
- 21 Mineo and Maglie
- 23 "Under the —yum tree"
- 24 C&W group
- 28 Cracker
- 30 Through
- 31 Living room piece
- 33 Split up
- 34 Domesticate
- 36 Cornhusker's state
- 37 Titanic message
- 38 "Be it ever so humble"
- 43 Movie dog "—Tin-Tin"
- 44 Sailor
- 45 Sunday before Easter
- 47 Bring in the fish
- 50 Move about
- 52 Female sandpiper
- 53 "— a draw"
- 55 Avoided
- 57 Portion of a minute
- 58 Favorite name for a dog
- 60 Chemical prefix
- 61 Algerian seaport
- 63 Letter of Marque holders
- 68 Folk knowledge
- 69 One in Bonn
- 70 Lauder
- 71 Existence (Lat.)

### DOWN

- 72 Social event
- 73 Patriot Silas
- 1 Cote mawling
- 2 Beast of burden
- 3 Macerate
- 4 St. John's bread tree
- 5 Mouthlike openings
- 6 Love (Latin)
- 7 "From — to riches"
- 8 Regions
- 9 Coarse cloth for bags
- 10 "— Diego"
- 11 Sharp operator's words
- 12 Put into harmony
- 13 He rents quarters
- 18 Used car lot dangers
- 22 Hockey no-no
- 24 Fitting
- 25 Wife of Jacob
- 26 Brinks' runners
- 27 "— Good Men"
- 29 "F.—" (T.V. sit-com)
- 32 Assists in crime
- 35 Zola
- 39 Bagnold et al
- 40 "... so hungry I could — horse"
- 41 Trifles
- 42 Robert — of the C.S.A.
- 46 Pre—
- 47 Do a shoe job
- 48 Januarys in Madrid
- 49 Bit in a way
- 51 Opposed to owned
- 54 Water wheel
- 56 Pee Wee of baseball
- 59 Touch of color
- 62 Formerly named
- 64 Neck shape
- 65 Greek letter
- 66 Stimp's pal
- 67 Observe

## Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...



## Crafters Sought For Agawam Junior Women's Club's Arts & Crafts Fair

Crafters are sought for the Agawam Junior Women's Club's 25th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair, which is scheduled for Saturday, June 5th, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Fair will be held on the grounds of the Captain Charles Leonard House at 663 Main Street in Agawam. All types of artisans and crafters are invited to participate in this event. The show will be juried and feature approximately 80 to 90 exhibitors. Admission is free, and all proceeds benefit the

Agawam Junior Women's Club Scholarship Fund. Tours of the historic Captain Charles Leonard House will be available. A Youth Art Exhibit will be on display as well. The size of each space will be 12' x 12', and a showing fee of \$45 will be due at time of application. A food concession will also be available during the day for your convenience. For more information or an application, please call Paula at (413) 786-0511 or Theresa at (413) 786-6515.

## ADVERTISER NEWS

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## A Weekly Look At Your Horoscope by Dale Platenik

**Pisces (Feb. 19th to March 20th):** You have great compassion for other people, Pisces, now try to nurture yourself. I know those of your sign sometimes get hung-up in that martyr syndrome, but it will be better for everyone if your fish doesn't end up as a wall trophy.

**Aries (March 21st to April 19th):** If you've been feeling a bit out-of-sorts or under-the-weather, don't blame others. Look inside yourself and let that innate creative energy loose. This is a good week to express the unique person you are in everything you do.

**Taurus (April 20th to May 20th):** Bulls, the symbol of your sign, were venerated in ancient cultures because they represented strength and fecundity. This week you will find others coming to you for understanding and help. Share your Taurus nature. Even you may be amazed at the results.

**Gemini (May 21st to June 20th):** This week will be full of diversity. Sets of opposites play off one another like a ping-pong match. You will enjoy the action. The twins of your sign give you a deep understanding that duality is only a perception.

**Cancer (June 21st to July 22nd):** You are less than dazzled by life this week, Cancer, but it's time to stop concentrating on how you're feeling. Try to visualize the things you want in your life and then pretend you're a magnet. You get what you attract.

**Leo (July 23rd to Aug. 22nd):** You do have a sense, Leo, that the whole world is your proverbial stage. It's a trait of your sign. But, if you don't like the reviews this week, it may be time to change the act. And remember, happy love stories make everyone feel good.

**Virgo (Aug. 23rd to Sept. 22nd):** Remember the Biblical admonition, "You reap what you sow"? So, while you are deciding what you will be getting this week, you should start figuring out what you will be giving. And keep in mind, the same feelings you have are shared by all humanity.

**Libra (Sept. 23rd to Oct. 22nd):** If you put half the energy into doing something, that you spend on thinking about what is being done to you, you could change your world. You have the power to manifest your dreams, but you've got to believe it first.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23rd to Nov. 21st):** You can have it all this week, Scorpio. How much you enjoy it, however, is up to you. You can be like an elevator and take others up with you, or you can be a bulldozer and clear out everything in your path. It's usually more fun to have someone else along for the ride.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22nd to Dec. 21st):** Here you are, Archer, your quiver is full of arrows and your bow is straight and strong. So what happened to your target? It's down here — on earth. You can't hit it when you keep flinging those darts at the sky.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22nd to Jan. 19th):** The Sea-Goat of your sign emerged from the ocean to live on land. That took great adaptability, versatility, and courage. You are at a place where your upward goals can be achieved. And, like your Sea-Goat, keep your wonderment and integrity.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20th to Feb. 18th):** As one of Uranus' children, you are blessed with spontaneity and a sense for the offbeat. It is because of these traits you work so well in humanitarian efforts. Just be your individual self this week and you can accomplish your goals.

*(Editor's note: Dale Platenik of Holyoke has been an astrologer for 19 years, has taught it and related subjects, and works as a counselor in the field. She does individual Astrology charts based on the time, place, and date of birth. Charts can be natal, progressed, for couple's comparison, or used for business. She can be reached at 539-5934.)*

\* \* \* \* \*

**Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!**

\* \* \* \* \*

## Valley Jazz Ensemble To Perform At Agawam Middle School This Friday, March 5th

The Valley Jazz Ensemble will "swing" into the Agawam Middle School for a performance on Friday, March 5th at 7:30 p.m.

The Valley Jazz Ensemble is a unique community establishment that has performed throughout the Pioneer Valley in Massachusetts since 1990, and has over 20 concerts planned for the 1999 season.

Some recent performances include Celebrate Holyoke, the Taste of Northampton, the Great New England Brewers Festival, and the Paradise City Arts Festival.

The Valley Jazz Festival showcases local musicians and has a large repertoire of standards, modern jazz classics, and original compositions. The ensemble features a complete rhythm section, vocals, and a wind complement. All of the musical arrangements are original and were specially written for the band.

Parking will be available in the rear of the school. This program is free and open to the public, and is being presented by the Agawam Cultural Council with funding provided by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

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## Education

### Phelps First Graders Raise \$500 For MSPCA This Valentine's Day

The recent Valentine's Day celebration for the first grade classes at Benjamin Phelps School reached beyond the usual exchange of cards and sharing of treats.

As part of their holiday festivities, the children proudly presented a donation of \$500 to representatives of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The money will be used to benefit the animals at the local shelter.

For this opportunity to express their natural love for animals, the children held for one month a collection of soda bottles and cans which were redeemed by parent volunteers. The project was aimed at teaching the children respect, kindness, and compassion for animals.

The fundraising effort also became a springboard for lessons in math, reading, writing, science, and art. The children sharpened math skills as they learned to count by fives and tally daily totals. They listened to and wrote stories about animals, made posters encouraging responsible pet care, and discussed the importance of recycling. They also learned how a team effort can achieve significant results.

Shelter staff members Madeline Nagy and Candice Lash offered a lesson on the proper care of pets. The children delightedly welcomed a surprise visit by two former shelter residents; Stanley, the gerbil who now belongs to Miss Nagy, and Barney, a tail-wagging, mixed-breed canine now owned by Mrs. Lash.

*I Wish I Had A...*

by Gabrielle Gonet, Grade 1

*Sometimes I wish I had a pet.  
I wouldn't care what it would  
be - a cat, a dog, a rabbit, a fish  
a bird. Any pet would be good  
for me. But my dad is allergic  
to cats. That's why I can't  
have one. But I can still help  
animals in many different ways,  
like give them a shelter, feed  
them healthy food, and  
love them in many ways.*

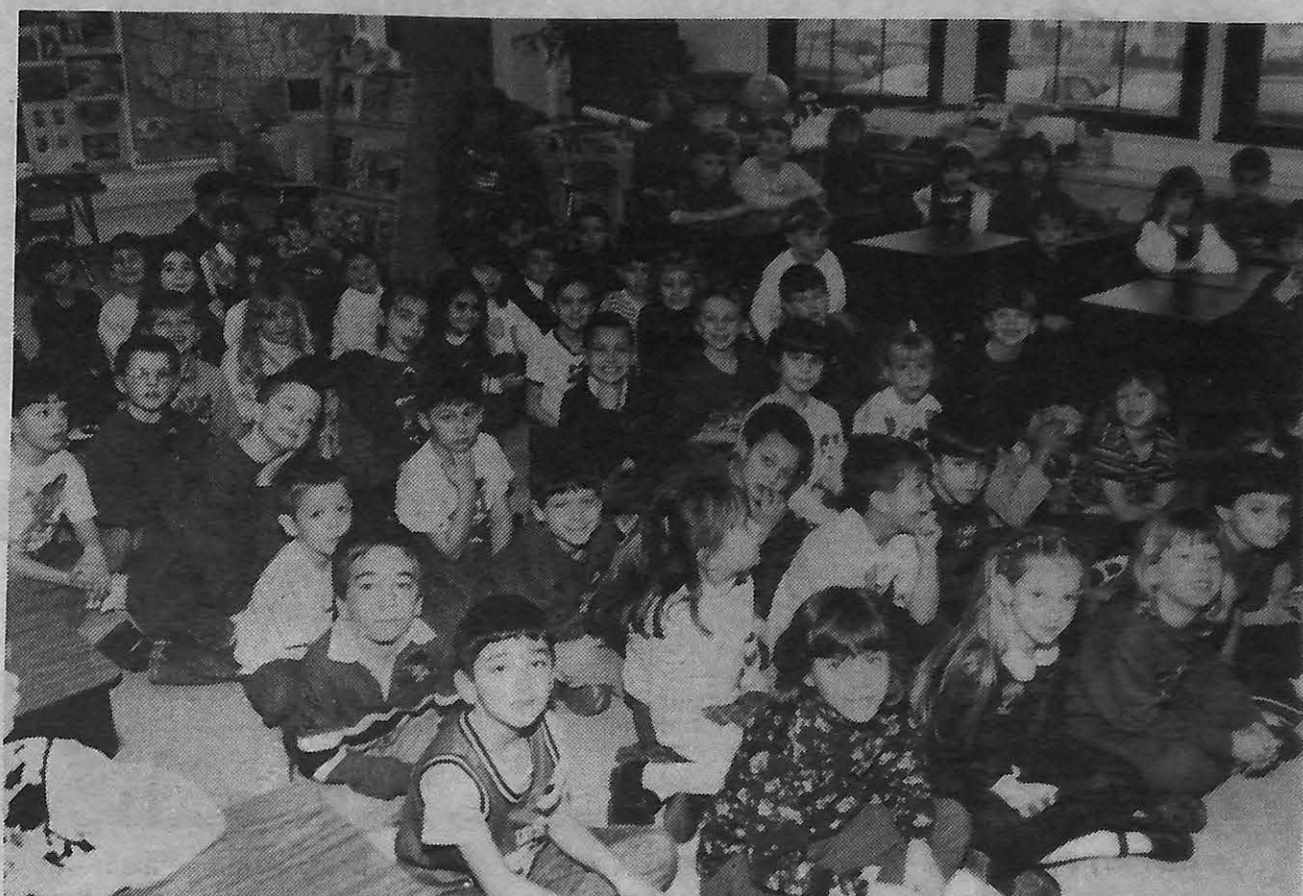
### Area Students Achieve Dean's List Standing At Elms College

Dr. John Freed, Academic Dean at Elms College, has announced that the following local students have been named to the Dean's List for the first semester of the 1998-1999 academic year.

**From Agawam:** Carla Davids, Amy Powell.

**From Feeding Hills:** Christina Januska, Sara Kendall.

The Dean's List is composed of students who have earned a quality point average of 3.50 or better.



**ABOVE:** Phelps first graders enjoyed their Valentine's Day celebration, which culminated in donating \$500 to the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. **AT RIGHT:** Brittney Bussiere, Nicolette Gonyea, Courtney Bussiere, Meghan Chisholm, and Connor Foster. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

### Kindergarten Info. Night For Parents Slated At Robinson

In preparation for Agawam's Kindergarten Registration, a Parent Information Night will be held on Thursday, March 18, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. at Robinson Park School.

Parents of all children entering kindergarten in September 1999 are invited to attend. The program will be to answer questions parents might have in regard to their child entering school in September.

Children who will be five (5) years of age prior to October 1, 1999 are eligible for enrollment in kindergarten in September.

*Best local news - AAN!*  
\* \* \*



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DAN BALBONY (third from the left), a senior at Agawam High School, with his "mentor," State Rep. Dan Keenan (third from the right), during the 2nd Annual National Groundhog Job Shadow Day. Also pictured above are (from left to right) Carol Grady, coordinator of AHS's Career Center; guidance counselor Judy Cohen; Superintendent of Schools Frank Ameruso; and Amy Hosmer, Keenan's legislative aide. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Dan Balbony Of AHS "Shadows" State Representative Daniel Keenan For A Day

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan and Agawam High School senior Dan Balbony recently participated in the 2nd Annual National Groundhog Job Shadow Day.

Balbony, president of his class, shadowed Keenan for a day and experienced life as a state legislator.

"I had a lot of fun, and I think Dan did, too," stated Keenan. "We did a lot of different things which gave Dan a good idea of the many aspects of public service."

The day started off in Ludlow with a legislative breakfast sponsored by the Pioneer Valley Central

Labor Council. The breakfast provided a forum for laborers and unions to highlight their legislators' priorities for the coming year.

The next stop was at the Southwick Senior Center, where Balbony observed Keenan conducting office hours. Among the greatest concerns of the senior citizens was the rising cost of health care.

The day concluded in Agawam at Keenan's district office for meetings.

Keenan was inspired to volunteer as a mentor, citing the importance of connecting the school and work communities.

## Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, March 8th:** Oven-baked chicken nuggets with honey, seasoned peas and carrots, steamed rice, bread and butter, chilled mixed fruit cup, milk.

**Tuesday, March 9th:** French bread pizza with pepperoni topping, tossed garden salad with spinach greens and Italian dressing, apple crisp, milk.

**Wednesday, March 10th:** Oven-baked teriyaki rib dippers, whipped potatoes, seasoned mixed vegetables, wheat bread and butter, diced pears in syrup or chocolate cake with vanilla icing, milk.

**Thursday, March 11th:** Meatball sandwich in roll with tomato sauce and cheese topping, seasoned green beans, pineapple tidbits in syrup or strawberry jello with topping, milk.

**Friday, March 12th:** Tomato and macaroni soup, grilled cheese sandwich with pickle chips, oven french fries with catsup, fruit cup or chocolate pudding with topping, milk.

(Tickets may be purchased on Monday in the elementary schools for the week. Meal price is \$1.10 daily. If paying by check, make check out to "Agawam School Lunch.")

## Agawam Jr. High To Conduct Spring Parents' Night

The Agawam Junior High School will conduct its annual Spring Parents' Night on Monday evening, March 8th from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

All parents of seventh and eighth grade students are welcome to attend the annual conference night, which features brief meetings with teachers and staff members. Classroom secretaries will schedule five-minute appointments with individual teachers that evening.

The Spring Parents' Night is an excellent opportunity for parents to visit the school where they may review their child's academic progress.

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Teen	13-16 years old
Miss	16-22 years old

Contestants Must Be Agawam Residents

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**Final Deadline — Wednesday, April 21st**



# P.U.M.P. Raises Money For Shelter In Northampton

by Kathy Shepard  
AAN Feature Writer

Peers Undertaking Major Problems, or P.U.M.P., a group of 15 Agawam Junior High School students committed to addressing issues of violence in school, collected five large bags of canned goods and used clothing for Jessie's House, a shelter in Northampton, as a result of one of their first events - a volleyball match in the Junior High gym.

The P.U.M.P. program offers a team-building program, with problem resolution through skills training. It is designed to help youth help themselves by creating ways of avoiding violence in its many forms, such as abusive or inflammatory remarks (replacing that behavior with constructive activities and interactions intended to build on strength, not weakness).

A cooperative initiative designed to unite areas of involence, P.U.M.P. is made up of Junior High students, parents, teachers, and members of the Agawam Police Department. The skills training teaches problem-solving for the school and the community, and peer mediation, which includes problem intervention and conflict resolution. Both verbal and non-verbal skills are taught.

P.U.M.P. was started last spring, but its roots were formed several years earlier when former APD Detective James Frantz (trained in 1986 as a DARE officer), went to work for Super Teams as regional manager, contracting with the United States Department of Education to do drug prevention throughout the Northeast. He spoke at National DARE Officers conferences on the power of peer influence.

In 1987, former Chief of Police Stanley Chmielewski received information on grants for federal funding to local police departments on problem-solving grants called "C.O.P.S." and Super Teams assisted in the completion of the grant application with the hope that Super Teams would assist in the training if the grant was awarded to Agawam.

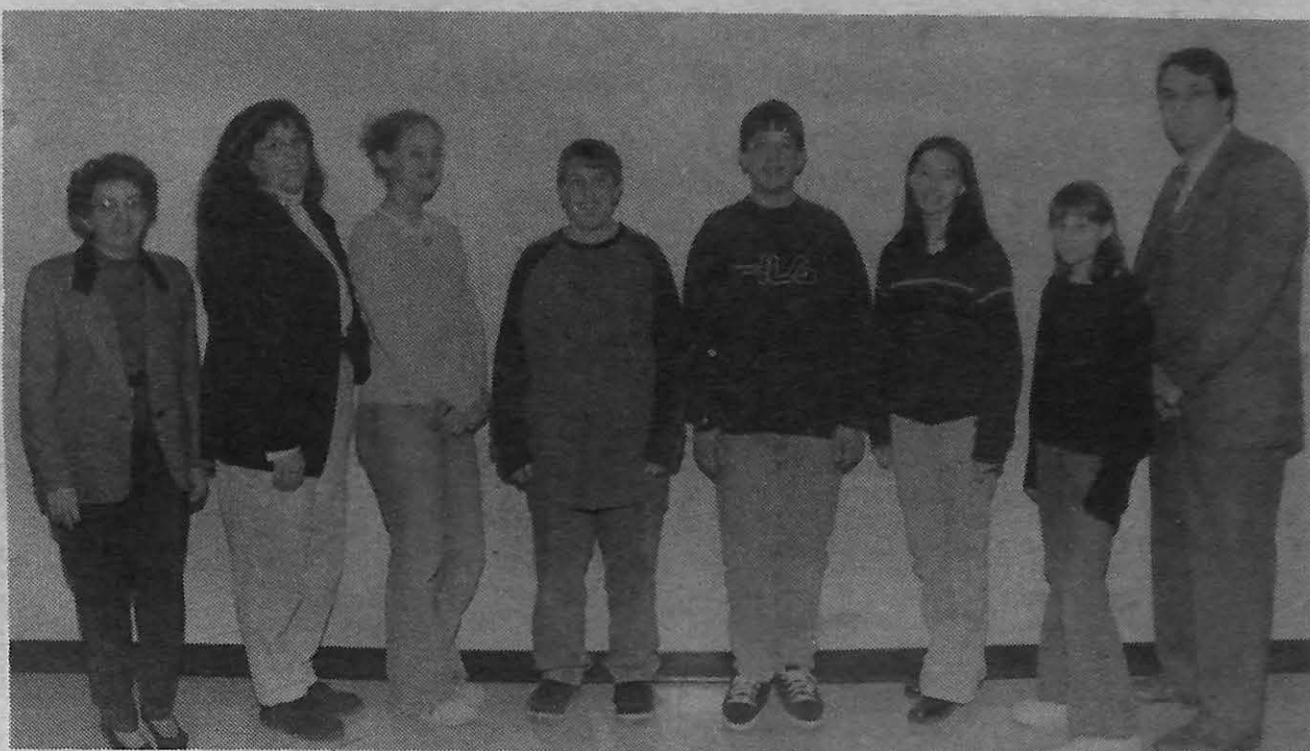
When the funding came through, a needs assessment was done by running focus groups, talking to youth, consulting the elderly for their opinions on problem areas, and questioning school administration, police, town officials, clergy, and others who could help determine areas of greatest need.

The greater part of the assessment showed that the area of greatest concern was violence, which included behavior such as shoving, roughness, verbal put-downs, and insults. A weekend of training by Frantz commenced, including counselors, administrators from the High School and the Junior High Schools, current Chief of Police Robert Campbell, Lieutenant Gary Nardi, Sergeant Steven Draghetti, other members of the police, former DARE officer Donald Gallerani, and School Committee representative Rosemary Sandlin.

## "Empowering" Young People...

Frantz explains, "The program teaches young people how to solve problems by empowering them to have skills to impact their problems. These methods also allow them to feel excited about what they are doing."

The weekend focused on positive environmental training, with the central theme of leadership, setting examples, making action plans, and learn-



**PARTICIPATING IN THE P.U.M.P. (Peers Undertaking Major Problems) program at Agawam Junior High School (from left to right): Guidance Counselor Jeanne Trinque, Substance Abuse Prevention Counselor Wendy Bradley-Terwilliger, students Ashley Robidoux, Brian Thomas, Brian Athas, Jodie Pfau, Joanne Brignoli, and Assistant Principal Marc Costanzi. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.**

ing how to create strategies for correcting a problem. Kids and parents learn to tackle problems within the community, with the school's involvement. Frantz trained the parents and students to learn successful methods of working out difficulties.

According to Junior High School Assistant Principal Marc Costanzi, "An important aspect of the program is that it is student driven. And at the same time, barriers that usually divide youth from authority figures will hopefully be broken down, so that youth can see authority figures as human beings who want the best for the kids. Through a variety of activities, the kids can get to know the police, administration, and parents in a different light."

The group of students has no officers but invites guests to participate in the activities planned for the future. Wendy Bradley-Terwilliger, Agawam Junior High Substance Abuse Prevention counselor, is encouraged by the parents' level of involvement in this effort. Parents are seeking ways of raising needed funds for future activities and hope that local businesses will contribute to its success.

Bradley-Terwilliger views P.U.M.P.'s present state as one that "feels right so far, has a long way to go, but brings out a really fabulous side of students, who have lots of energy for its future. They are planning volleyball or basketball ventures, movies at school, or a game night, which will naturally include food. The students are con-

sidering an open gym and swim, a field day, and an evening of crazy games. Some or all of these might be selected for events."

P.U.M.P. will strive to reduce violence and negative name-calling. "It will encourage kids to uplift each other and breed strength and stronger self-images," notes Costanzi. "Positive communication can bring about better conditions and relationships."

Local businesses are urged to help raise the funding needed to continue this worthwhile venture. So far, P.U.M.P. held an ice cream social, with police serving the ice cream to the students. On January 25th, there was a volleyball tournament, with police, teachers, guidance counselors, and parents against seventh- and eighth-grade students. There was a gathering afterward, with cake and soda. The game was held in the Junior High gym, and the party took place in the cafeteria.

The 15 or so young people and their parents have been trained through Super Teams with Frantz. Faculty receiving training were Costanzi, Principal Kevin Littlefield, Guidance Counselor Jeanne Trinque, and Bradley-Terwilliger.

The essence of this program was not born overnight. It has taken time, derived from valuable plans conceived over several years, and nurtured through skills acquired through training. P.U.M.P. has nowhere to go but forward, toward the valuable goal of building human strengths through the power of leadership and example.

## John A. Hill Is In WSC's "Music Man"

John A. Hill of Agawam is in the cast of the Westfield State College Musical Theatre Guild's production of "The Music Man."

The show will be staged in Dever Auditorium on the college campus at 8:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. matinee on Saturday on April 29th, 30th, and May 1st.

Admission is \$4 and \$2 for students and seniors.

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## Kim Bruce Learning About Legal System With Local Attorney

Kim Bruce, a senior at Southwick-Tolland Regional High School, is currently involved in the district Diversified Learning Experience program (DLE).

The Southwick-Tolland Regional School District's "Diversified Learning Experience" is a highly structured, intense internship program. Students enter the program after a screening process that includes a battery of tests to measure career interests and competencies, exploratory job-shadowing experiences, site-based interviews, and a goal-setting conference that includes the student, the site-based mentor, parents, and the school Career Coordinator.

Students are paired with a mentor and develop goals and competencies to be attained by the student in the course of the internship. The Southwick-Tolland Regional School District's "Diversified Learning Program" has served as a model program for the various school-to-career collaborative in the region, and has been recognized by the State Department of Education for its exemplary design.

Kim has expressed her interest in the legal/paralegal field and has been paired with Atty. Alan Ferrigno of 546 Springfield St., Feeding Hills and staff, who will be her mentors at the office. Kim will be spending about three hours daily (approximately 250 hours during the semester) learning about her career. Some of her duties include typing letters, computer operation, filing, and legal research.

"I like working here. It is a great experience being in a professional environment. It gives me the opportunity to be treated as an adult and given the responsibilities as one, also," Kim says.

Atty. Ferrigno added, "This program gives young people a wonderful opportunity for hands-on experience early in their working careers."

Southwick-Tolland Regional High School Career Facilitator Gary Larese said, "I encourage other students and businesses to take the opportunity to get involved. It's a win-win situation for all."

## Susan G. Longtin Inducted Into Who's Who For College Students

A Feeding Hills resident, Susan G. Longtin of 21 Ridgeway Drive, has been inducted into *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*.

Longtin is currently a senior at Westfield State College in Westfield. She is majoring in social science. She is an ombudsman for the Greater Springfield Senior Services and employed at Shriners Hospital for Children in the Nursing Department. Longtin is a mother of three.

Longtin is married to Thomas Longtin and the daughter of John and Betty Ann Hackett. She is a graduate of Notre Dame High School.

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**KIM BRUCE** (center), a senior at Southwick-Tolland Regional High School, with STRHS Career Facilitator Gary Larese (left) and Attorney Alan Ferrigno (right), who is serving as one of Kim's mentors this semester through the district Diversified Learning Experience program (DLE). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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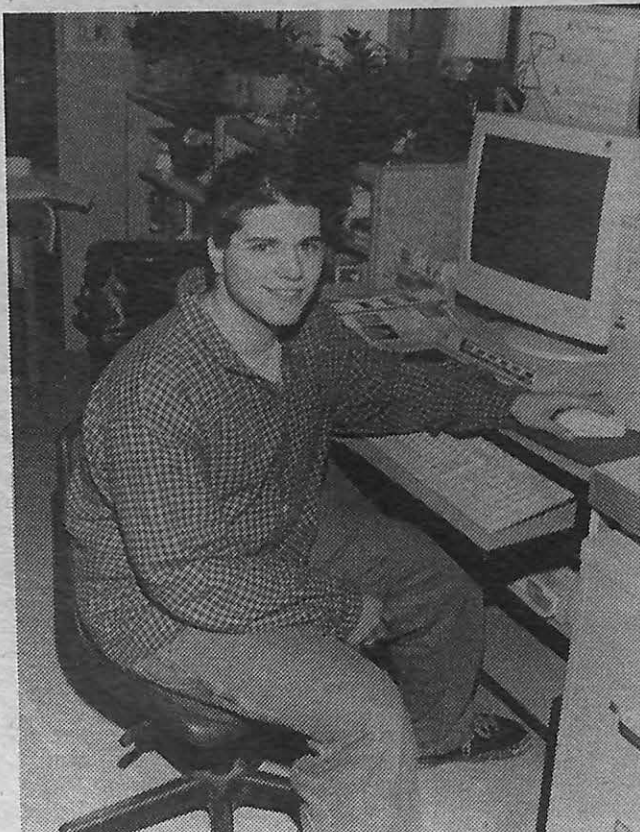
- Every Monday and Thursday, bring in a roll to be developed and receive a second set of prints or a roll of film for \$1.00 (1-hour, next-day service only; color only).
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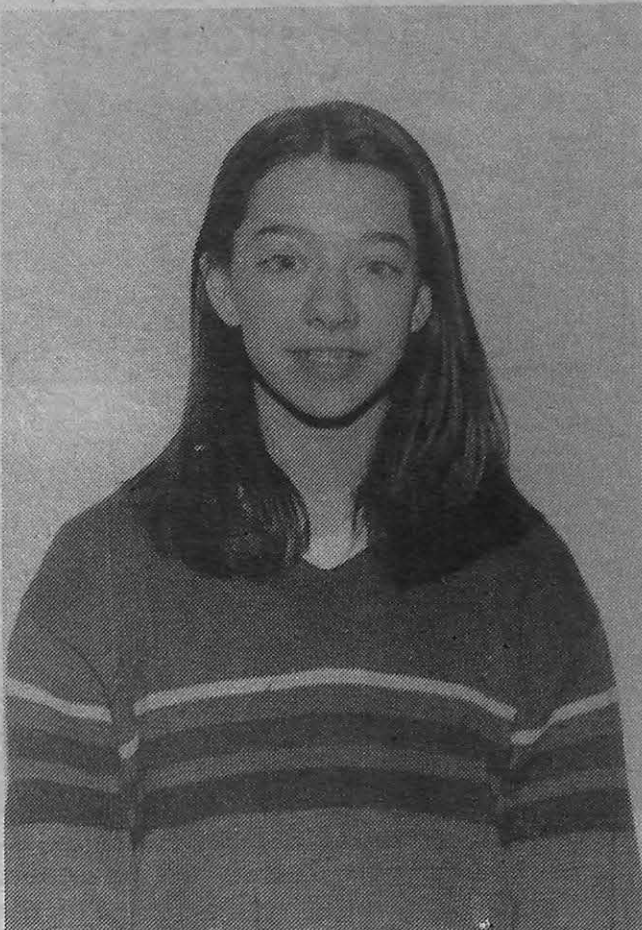


## Noted Art Student...



**TIM RIVERS** has been selected as the Agawam High School "Art Student" for the month of February. The son of Daniel & Nancy Rivers of 491 North Street, Feeding Hills, Tim plans on studying computer design and animation in college. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Savings Bond Winners At Agawam Jr. High...



**JODIE PFAUS** (left) and **LINDSAY CAREY** (right), both of whom are eighth graders at Agawam Junior High School, were recently awarded \$50 savings bonds. Jodie received hers for the month of December, and Lindsay received hers for the month of January. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

## Sarah B. Cowan Is A Merit Finalist At Suffield Academy

Sarah B. Cowan, a senior at Suffield Academy, has been named a Finalist in the 1999 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Of the more than one million students in the United States who entered the 1999 Merit Competition, approximately 14,000 reached the Finalist stage.

The selection of some 7,600 Merit Scholarship winners from the Finalist group is now in progress. In addition to achieving high standardized test scores, Finalists must also have an outstanding academic record and recommendations from their counselors and teachers.

Sarah is the daughter of Reverend and Mrs. Leonard Cowan of Agawam, and is a four-year student at Suffield Academy.

## John Higgins III Named To Dean's List At Providence College For Fall 1998 Semester

John Higgins III of Agawam, a biology-science major, has been named to the Dean's List at Providence College for the fall 1998 semester.

To achieve Dean's List status, a student must attain a 3.25 or higher grade point average on a 4.0 scale, with no grade lower than "C."

Providence College is the only college or university in North America administered by the Dominican Friars. The Catholic, liberal arts college has an undergraduate enrollment of approx-

imately 3,800 students and offers degrees in 37 academic majors.

For the last four years, Providence College has been ranked among the top three regional universities in the north in *U.S. News*' "America's Best Colleges". The college achieved the number two position in 1999 and was the highest ranking institution in its category named to *U.S. News*' "Best Values List."

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## Happy 50th Birthday Mom!



Love,  
Alison



## Agawam High School March 1999 Calendar Of Events

**March 1st-26th:** Food Drive for Open Pantry. Sponsored by the Math Club.

**March 4th-11th:** Guidance counselors schedule 11th grade students.

**March 4th:** Peer Leadership planning, organizing, and producing presentations for AJHS.

**March 5th:** Make-up physicals for spring athletics, 8:00 a.m.; Discussion group sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program.

**March 6th:** IAJE State Finals at Fitchburg State College; Colorguard & percussion to Wrentham, MA.

**March 9th:** AHS Guidance Department Scholarship Evening, 7:00 p.m., AHS Cafeteria.

**March 10th:** ALATEEN Meeting sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program; Math Club Meeting.

**March 11th:** Winter Athletic Recognition Night, 6:00 p.m.; Peer Leadership planning, organizing, and producing presentations for AJHS; Discussion group sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program.

**March 12th-16th:** Guidance counselors visit 10th grade English classes to explain 11th grade courses of studies.

**March 12th:** Renaissance Month of March Madness - Gold & Gold Plus Card distribution; Discussion group sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program.

**March 13th:** Colorguard and percussion to Peabody, MA.

**March 15th:** First day of the spring athletic season.

**March 16th:** Blood Drive, sponsored by the Future Teachers' Club; RMV/State Police School Outreach program - Registry of Motor Vehicles and the MA State Police are offering a 50-minute presentation on safe driving, how to get and keep a driver's license, and how to utilize Registry services from home. (Limited to 35 sophomores and juniors.) AHS library, sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program.

**March 17th-25th:** Guidance counselors schedule 10th grade students.

**March 17th:** Renaissance Month of March Madness - Happy St. Patrick's Day VIP Cards; ALATEEN meeting sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program.

**March 18th:** AHS School Improvement Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.; Peer Leadership planning, organizing, and producing presentations for AJHS.

**March 19th:** Discussion group sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program.

**March 20th:** Colorguard and percussion to Dartmouth, MA.

**March 21st:** Band and cheerleaders to St. Patrick's Day Parade, Holyoke, MA.

**March 24th:** ALATEEN Meeting sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program; 6:30 p.m., Spring Athletic Back-to-Sport Night; Math Club Meeting.

**March 25th:** Renaissance Month of March Madness - Fall Sports GPA Ice Cream Social for top girls' and top boys' academic average; Peer Leadership planning, organizing, and producing presentations for AJHS; Spring Athletic Media Day.

**March 26th:** FULL PROFESSIONAL DAY - NO SCHOOL; MICCA State Band Festival in Greenfield, MA.

**March 27th-31st:** Guidance counselors visit ninth-grade English classes to explain 10th grade courses of studies.

**March 27th:** Colorguard and percussion to Dennis, MA; Jazz Band to UMass Jazz Festival.

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\* \* \*

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Call 786-5061 or Bob Marsh after 6:00 p.m., 786-3143.

Use for day care center negotiable.

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## Agawam Public Schools Announce Screening Dates For Incoming Kindergarten Students

The Agawam Public Schools will be conducting registration and screening of children entering kindergarten in September 1999.

Children who will be five (5) years of age prior to October 1st are eligible for enrollment in kindergarten in September.

Chapter 766, the Massachusetts Special Education Regulations, requires that each school district provide services for identifying children with special needs. Screening is not a test nor an in-depth evaluation, but an observance of how a child is growing in different areas of development.

A screening team, composed of specialists, will

be observing the children's development in several areas, namely: Speech, Language, Gross and Fine motor, Behavior, and Physical Development. This process will be completed during the kindergarten registration which will be held at the elementary schools.

Screening dates are as follows: Robinson Park, March 25th & March 25th; Phelps School, April 8th & April 9th; Granger School, April 15th & 16th; Clark School, April 29th & 30th.

Parents who have not already contacted their neighborhood school should do so immediately. Children will be screened by appointment only.

*Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!*

Hear Ye!

Hear Ye!

Hear Ye!

Hear Ye!

**Last Chance!!!**

**Announcing**

**The Sacred Heart  
Athletic Association**



## Final, Final Sign-Ups

### Thursday, March 11th

### 7:00 P.M. To 9:00 P.M.

**At The**

**Sacred Heart Parish Center**

*"Come Feel The Joy And Excitement Of Inter-League Play"*

**Midget League (Co-Ed 5 Yr. Old) - \$35.00**

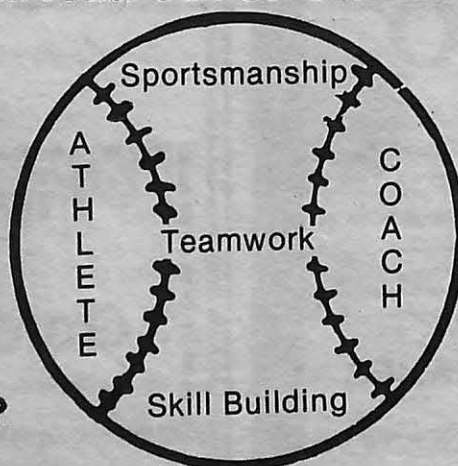
**All Other Leagues**

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Any Late Sign-Ups Will Be Put On A Waiting List  
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## Guidance Bulletin

**College Acceptances:** Congratulations!  
**Michael Carney:** Franklin Pierce College, Springfield Technical Community College  
**Laura Tenerowicz:** Roger Williams University, Elms College

**Michael DeFilipi:** University of Massachusetts  
**Diane Balicki:** Fitchburg State College, University of Massachusetts

**Theresa Wesley:** Quinnipiac College, Western New England College

**Kornelia Moysis:** Quinnipiac College, Springfield College, Western New England College, University of Massachusetts, University of Hartford

**Jessica Briotta:** Quinnipiac College  
**Tim Faust:** Becker College, Holyoke Community College

**Erin Resigno:** Quinnipiac College  
**Amy Champagne:** Nichols College

**Matthew Gomes:** Springfield Technical Community College

**Melissa Crough:** University of Massachusetts

**Bob Fuller:** Allegheny College  
**Kate Theroux:** Assumption College

**Bridget Donovan:** Springfield Technical Community College

**Alison Jackobek:** St. Anselm's College, Roger Williams University

**Dominick Koleczek:** Springfield Technical Community College

**Dawn Bucalo:** Springfield Technical Community College

**Gwen Gonyea:** Newbury College

**Rebecca Rising:** Elms College

**Charles Denison:** Rochester Institute of Technology

**Mario Santillo:** Rochester Institute of Technology

**Scholarships:** See your counselor for more information or an application.

**Paul Golden Memorial Scholarship Award:** This scholarship will be awarded to graduating high school seniors who reside in Massachusetts and will be attending any two- or four-year institution. Recipients of the awards will be chosen according to need, determination, citizenship, and scholarship. A total of five \$750 scholarships will be awarded to students. **Deadline:** April 4, 1999.

**Holyoke Community College Foundation:** Open to students who plan to attend Holyoke Community College next year. **Deadline:** April 9, 1999.

**Italian Women's Club Scholarship:** Available to high school seniors of Italian extraction who have been accepted at an accredited four-year college. Applications must include scholastic rating, guidance counselor's recommendation, and must show financial need. **Deadline:** April 1, 1999.

**West Springfield-Agawam Elks Scholarship:** A scholarship of \$250 will be made to a boy and a girl graduate from each of Agawam and West Springfield High Schools. The criteria used to judge the applicants will be academic standing, character references, and financial need. **Deadline:** April 1, 1999.

**Boston Guild for the Hard of Hearing Scholarship:** \$1,000 will be awarded to a senior student with a hearing loss who will be pursuing a two- or four-year college education. **Deadline:** March 12,

## Try "Validating" Someone Today

by Judy Cohen  
 Agawam High School Guidance Counselor

My husband and I were leaving a parking lot the other day and reached for our ticket that had been validated. Giving it to the attendant, we were able to exit the parking lot without paying. As we continued driving along, I began to ponder the word validate and realized how important it is not only to enable you to park free, but also to enable you to lead a healthy and happy life.

Validate means to support or confirm. Think about a person on a job. It is nice to be validated. It makes one feel warm and good to have the boss come over and say, "Hey, Joe, I just wanted to tell you that you're doing a super job. Keep up the good work!"

You smile outwardly and inwardly. Not only do you feel good, but also you feel energized to roll up your sleeves and strive to do even better in your work. You have been recognized; you have been confirmed as a human being. You are not just a number; you have a face that is recognized by the boss and your services have been acknowledged.

In addition to having one's deeds validated, it's important to have one's thoughts and ideas recognized as well. Perhaps your ideas are not really going to be able to work, but at least they should be allowed to be aired, to initially be validated, and to be supported.

In this way, you will feel important. You will be encouraged to speak up further, to offer more suggestions, and to realize that you have worth.

Students in school should be validated often. It has been shown that through encouragement often comes success.

Yes, we all do make mistakes and these should

be recognized, but so should the good deeds we do and the thoughts that we share. Imagine if every time we opened our mouths, we were told that our ideas were ridiculous. After a while, we would stop sharing ideas since we would not want to be put down all the time.

Lack of validation causes lack of growth. It fosters a "why bother?" attitude. That's why it's so important for a teacher to not only give constructive criticism, but also to give support and confirmation.

"Terri, your grammar needs some improvement, but your basic ideas are excellent." Now, Terri does not feel that the whole paper is horrible; instead, she has been encouraged to expand upon her good ideas and work on her grammar.

Validation works well at home, too. If a parent keeps finding fault with his youngster, the youngster will perhaps stop doing anything. It's sort of like a fighter in a ring. If he constantly is punched and knocked down, after a while he just won't bother getting up.

Take a look at John. He just never seems to get anything done around the house. His room should be condemned! Instead of just screaming at him and telling him that you don't live in a pigpen, say something positive: "John, you always look terrific when you're dressed and ready for school. Your car, too, is so neat inside. I'm proud of how nicely you keep it. Let's see if you can start keeping your room neat and clean, too."

Now, instead of picking on him unmercifully for his pigsty, you have validated him for some positive happenings and, in that way, have encouraged him to start thinking about his room.

Try validating someone today. I am sure that you will reap the benefits!

## Western New England College To Host Open House On March 27th

Western New England College will be hosting high school seniors and their parents at an Open House from 12:30-4:30 p.m., Saturday, March 27th.

The event is free, but reservations must be made by calling (413) 782-1312.

High school students and their parents will be able to tour the campus; learn about residence life; obtain information on the College's academic offerings and admissions procedures; and speak with faculty, staff, and current students about the College.

With its Scholastic Student Development program, which places emphasis not only on

academics, but also other vital aspects of personal growth, Western New England College offers students a unique learning environment.

Western New England College, founded in 1919, is a private, nonsectarian, coeducational institution located on an attractive 185-acre suburban campus in Springfield. The College serves 4,800 students on its Springfield main campus, at over 20 sites throughout the Commonwealth, and at its downtown Springfield campus. Undergraduate and graduate programs are offered through the College's Schools of Arts & Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Law.

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## Sports

Reach Division I Semi-Finals Vs. Longmeadow...

# Maloni, Bertone-Gross On Fire As Brownies Blast Pittsfield

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

When you get on one of those cold school buses that ride like their shocks were made out of rocks and travel an hour each way to your destination, you know sometimes the ordeal can be above and beyond the call of duty.

That was the fate of the Pittsfield High girls' basketball team last Saturday evening, February 27th. They had to travel all the way to Agawam High, where they got a Division I quarter-final, 59-34 spanking from the top-seeded Brownies and then had to ride that bus all the way back home.

Actually, the 10th-seeded Generals were only in this one for a brief spell. A lot of their problems had to do with 31 points courtesy of senior forward Barbara Maloni and 19 (season high) for senior center Pia Bertone-Gross.

Pittsfield tried to go low on Agawam, much as Longmeadow did when it upset the Brownies, 55-50, not long ago. They also tried a press. But that wasn't working, either.

With 5:30 gone, Agawam was up, 17-4. Besides Maloni's usual heroics via slashing drives to the hoop, and Pia's strong contribution, point guard Jill Gendron was pushing the ball up the floor and hitting the shooter, despite being under heavy defensive pressure all night long.

### The Generals Not Going Away

The Generals, to the surprise of the faithful in the fairly-packed gym, were not going away. With 4:22 left in the half, they began to hit the offensive boards and were only down 25-20. The Brownies, perhaps on cruise control, switched back into

high gear behind a free throw and four straight field goals by Maloni (24 first-half points) to take a 32-20 lead into the locker room.

The Brownies came out in their man-to-man defense for the second 16 minutes and upped their lead to 38-22 with three minutes gone. Most of that margin had to do with Bertone-Gross, who was camped out in the paint for turnaround jumpers or the close lay-up.

The Brownies sealed the win with a 9-0 run from 6:10 to 2:17, upping their margin to 53-28, effectively sending the Generals back to their bus.

**AGAWAM INDIVIDUAL STATS:** Maloni - 31 pts (13-17 fgs, 5-8 fts); rebounds - 10, 7 offensive. Bertone-Gross - 19 pts (8-12 fgs, 3-3 fts); rebounds - 3, 2 offensive. Cote - 7 (2-7 fgs, 3-4 fts); rebounds - 3, w offensive. Gendron - 2 pts (1-7 fgs); 3 rebounds, 2 offensive. Benton - 0 pts (0-2 fgs). Lyman - 0 pts (0-1 fgs); 1 offensive rebound.

**AGAWAM TEAM STATS:** 24-46 FGS (52 percent); 11-15 FTS (73 percent); REBOUNDS - 22, 15 OFFENSIVE; TURNOVERS - 9, NO POINTS ALLOWED OFF TO'S.

**BROWNIE NOTES:** At presstime, Agawam was getting ready for a rematch against fifth-seeded Longmeadow. Last Saturday, they beat fourth-seeded Westfield. The Lancers can be formidable. If Agawam prevails, they'll meet the winner of the Minnechaug (no. 2)/East Longmeadow game, also on Wednesday evening. That will be played at the Mullins Center on the campus of UMass on Saturday evening, March 6th.

## Lancers Pelt AHS In Division III Hockey Quarters

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Agawam High's dream of Division III hockey glory disintegrated last Monday night as they lost (coincidentally), 8-2 to Longmeadow High, after beating Springfield Central by that same margin last week in the first round. Earlier in the year, the two teams had tied, 4-4. But history means little in the roughhouse world of the Western Mass. hockey tournament.

And it was Longmeadow, the fourth seed, who came out hitting everything with an orange jersey in this quarter-final match. They belted Brownies in the crease and in the corners. The aggressiveness paid off with four minutes gone as the Lancers rang up their first score.

Agawam couldn't get untracked for any kind of sustained assault in the Longmeadow zone. And when Mike Kosinski, Brian Pagella, and Andy Radwanski tried to rally the troops with six minutes gone, it almost worked. High-scoring Tony LeClaire had a semi-break on Lancer keeper Gerry Grondin at 7:50, but the junior goalie dove forward and pounced on the puck as LeClaire sailed over his head.

### End-To-End Hockey

It was end-to-end hockey for the next 3½ minutes. However, Longmeadow was doing a better job jamming the passing lanes. It meant paydirt at 4:01. B.J. Williams intercepted a pass, drove in on Brownie keeper Mike Schmidt, and beat him from 15 feet out on the left wing. The period ended with the Lancers up, 2-0. Each team had seven shots on net.

As it seems to happen more than once, one score seems to prompt a quick response. With

SEE AHS HOCKEY - Page 38...

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8:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M., Saturday

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**AHS HOCKEY - from Page 37...**

1:55 gone, Pagella broke into the Lancer crease and scored off a feed from some nice stickwork by Radwanski and Kosinski.

That should have given Agawam a confidence boost. Instead, they allowed the Lancers to come right back with a goal on a jam just inside the right post with 2:50 gone. Again, they were down by two goals.

The Lancers killed an Agawam power play a few minutes later, which couldn't have helped the Brownies' mindset. Radwanski had a blast on net, but Grondin robbed him. Schmidt matched that effort with a good save of his own on a point blank effort at 9:05.

It was still 3-1, Longmeadow. Then, in a carbon copy of the Central game (except this time the Brownies were on the receiving end), Longmeadow scored three quick goals, making the score 6-1 after two stanzas. Agawam had six shots on net. Longmeadow came in with 13.

Derek Mercadante was in net for Agawam to start the third period. Agawam seemed to be hustling a little more. They attacked and Tony Kosinski scored from 20-feet out on the right point. The assists went to his brother, Mike, and to LeClaire.

That (6-2) would be as close as the Brownies would get. Two more Lancer scores sent them into the semifinals against Westfield High at presstime. The loss, which saw Agawam finish at 13-7-2, sent them home.

Agawam finished with 19 total shots on the Lancer net. They countered with 23 against the Brownies.

## San Diego Chicken To Be Featured On "Agawam Night"

The Springfield Falcons are pleased to announce Agawam "San Diego Chicken Night," sponsored by the Agawam Recreation Department on Friday, March 19th at 7:30 p.m., as your Falcons host the Adirondack Red Wings at the Springfield Civic Center.

In his only appearance of the season, bring the family to see the funniest chicken in the world lay his eggs all over Screech's "nest"!

Group night discounted tickets are available at the Agawam Recreation Dept. weekdays. Adult/senior discounted tickets are priced at \$9.50 each, and all kids, 18 and under, get in for only \$6.50 each. As always, there is free parking for all Falcons' games in the Civic Center parking garage with your ticket stub.

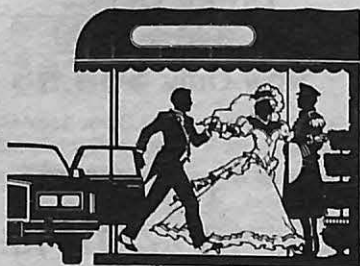
For further information, kindly call the Agawam Recreation Dept. at 821-0513. All ticket purchases must be made by Wednesday night, March 17th at 4:00 p.m.

As an added bonus to Agawam night, Mascot Screech will make a public appearance at the Agawam Middle School, Wednesday, March 10th from 6:30-7:30 p.m. to sign autographs.

Tickets for Agawam night will also be on sale that evening!

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### Playoff Hockey vs. Central...

# Brownie Hockey Easily Skate Past Central In First Round

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Last Friday, the Agawam High hockey (fifth seed) team began its quest for the Division III Western Mass. hockey crown. Their opponent was 12th-seeded Springfield Central. And for a time, the Golden Eagles put a scare into the Brownies before falling, 8-2.

Agawam started its high scoring line of Dave Gusek (center), Tony LeClaire (left wing), Andy Radwanski (right wing), with Josh Sprague and Brian Gilhooly on defense. Immediately the Brownies went on attack. They were passing well and at the 13-minute mark, Brian Pagella, on the second line, launched a hard slap shot right on the Eagle net. He was robbed on a pad save by sophomore goalie Marc Palatino.

The Brownies continued passing the puck into the Central zone. Standouts with the stickwork were LeClaire, Radwanski, and Josh Sprague. Palatino continued to be tough in the net and a save resulted in a semi-breakaway for the Eagles. The shot, with 7:20 to go, was on net. AHS goalie Derek Mercadante came up with a standout save of his own.

Tony Kosinski, Adam Sprague, and LeClaire mounted an attack with 4:50 left. LeClaire, one of the leading goal scorers in Western Mass. (29) hit one of his big slap shots from the left crease which Palatino knocked away with a pad save.

#### Clear Offensive Edge For The Brownies

Agawam had a clear offensive edge in the first period. Yet, when it ended, the score was a double bagel. Agawam had 13 shots on the Central net. The Eagles managed four.

Agawam struck with 2:26 gone in the second. Adam Sprague drove the puck through the center of the crease. Palatino made the save, but Tony Kosinski was there for the rebound and jammed it home, making it 1-0.

Like lions smelling blood, the Brownies were again buzzing the Eagle goal. They had seven

shots on net with 5:15 gone when Brian Pagella nailed one from 25 feet out on the right wing. It would be the first of four for him in the game. Mike Kosinski got the assist.

Josh Sprague got a trip to the box for cross-checking at the 6:36 mark. Coach Fran Pycko sent out the penalty-killing group of Pagella, Gusek, LeClaire, and Brian Gilhooly. They did their job and Agawam survived the short-handed situation.

However, with 3:50 left, Central made it a 2-1 game on a score from the right point. With 10 seconds left, an Agawam rush was met head-on by Palatino, who made another outstanding save. The Eagles' defense was definitely keeping them in this one. The second period ended 2-1, Brownies. Their shot total was almost cut in half to seven. Central managed two.

AHS started the third period with a power play and got a goal off of it as Pagella took a centering pass from Josh Sprague at 13:21 and drove it past Palatino.

Something seemed to snap then for the Eagles. A little more than a minute later, Gusek lit the lamp from the left crease on assists by Tony Kosinski and LeClaire. It was suddenly a shooting gallery. Pagella got his fourth at the 9:30 mark off an assist by Josh Sprague, making it 6-1, Brownies.

Central tried to come up with an effective offense. Mike Schmidt, now in net, managed a heads-up save on a Central breakaway late in the third. Agawam answered with a score off the stick of Gusek (from Radwanski and Jason Callahan). Central had a score 30 seconds later. But the issue was no longer in doubt. Kosinski got Agawam's final score with help from Gusek and Sprague with 54 ticks left on the clock.

On why his club seemed to be skating in mud for the first two periods, Pycko said that sometimes you play down to the other team's level. "That's what we did tonight," he grumbled.

*When it comes to covering local high school athletics, no one does it like our Sports Editor, Dave Rollins. He is just one more reason why you turn our pages.*

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## Boys' Lacrosse Clinic Scheduled For March 8th-10th

For the second year, the Agawam Boys' High School Lacrosse Booster Club, in cooperation with the Agawam Recreation Department and the Agawam Youth Lacrosse Association, will sponsor a Boys' Lacrosse Clinic on March 8th, 9th, and 10th for boys in grades five through eight.

Registration will take place at 5:30 p.m. on March 8th in the Agawam High School gymnasium. The cost for the entire clinic will be \$20. Own stick required.

In addition, signups will be taken for this spring's Youth Lacrosse League for boys in grades five through eight. Fee is \$45. Own equipment required.

Agawam lacrosse t-shirts will be on sale, while supplies last.

For more information, contact Bob Young at 786-8995 or the Recreation Department at 821-0514.

## Second Agawam Girls' Lacrosse Clinic Slated For Early March

The Second Annual Agawam Girls' Lacrosse Clinic will be held at Agawam Junior High School on March 8th, 9th, and 10th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for girls in grades five through eight.

Lacrosse is the fastest sport on two feet, so come and be a part of this exciting game. Learn the basic fundamentals of catching, throwing, shooting, cradling, and game play.

The cost for the entire clinic is \$20. Checks should be made payable to "Agawam Girls' Lacrosse Booster Club."

Sticks will be provided for those in need. Long-sleeve lacrosse T-shirts and shorts will also be on sale at the clinic.

Registration will take place at 5:30 p.m. on March 8th in the Junior High gymnasium.

For more information, contact Cindy Grieve at 821-0569.

## Kara Tierney Is Part Of A "Very Confident" Girls' Basketball Team

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Kara Tierney has been one of the many reasons the Agawam High girls' basketball team has had such an outstanding season. Recently, the senior talked to us about her time at AHS.

Kara turned 18 on December 15th. She has spent all four years of her secondary education at the High School. Her current curriculum includes physics, advanced math, English 12, and child development. Her favorite teacher is Patricia Bertone-Gross (algebra II). Physics is her top course.

Kara is a two-year member of the National Honor Society and is also in the Renaissance Club. She will be attending Bryant College in the fall, with a major in actuarial science. "It's something used in insurance companies," she explained.

Kara also played varsity soccer and says she likes both basketball and soccer. She is a guard on the basketball team. She has started some games this season and serves as a role player. Kara plays the game hard and has no problem diving for loose balls and giving Coach Lou Conte meaningful minutes whenever she is called upon.

Her most memorable sports moment to date was beating Minnechaug Regional last year for a share of the Valley Wheel title.

She says she's not surprised by the girls' basketball team this year (Western Mass. semifinals, 19-1 at presstime) despite losing long-time stars Kristen Patterson and Amber Conte to graduation. "We have a team that is very confident in themselves. That's a good way to be."

Kara's favorite food is pasta.

Her color is blue.

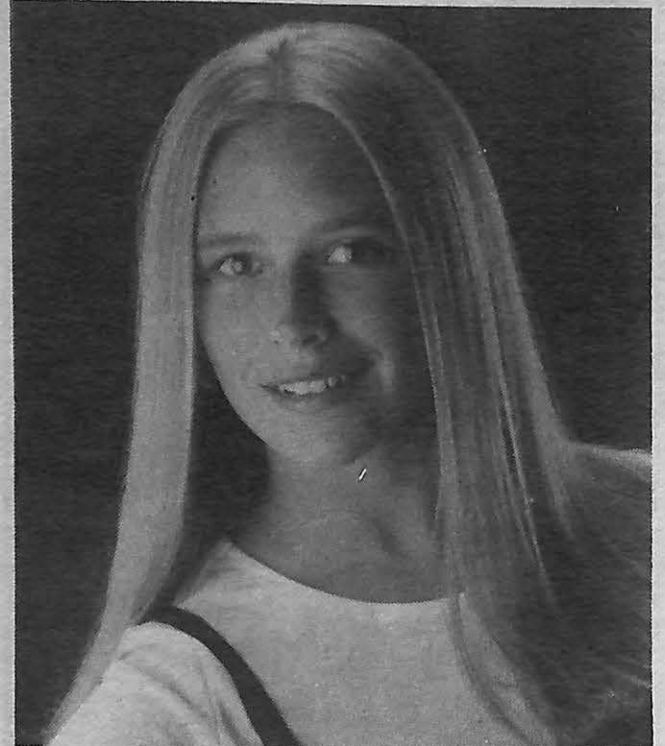
She likes to relax anyplace her friends might be. She likes casual clothes and does most of her shopping for them at Abercrombie & Fitch.

She likes just about any kind of music.

"Charmed" is tops on the tube for her.

"Top Gun" is her favorite flick.

Patricia and Thomas Tierney are her parents.



KARA TIERNEY

She has a younger sister, Kaitlin, who is 15 and attends AHS. She also has an older sister, Kristen, who is 20.

She looks up to her parents most of all. She would like to be remembered at Agawam High when her days are done as a good student who had some success there.

Conte has always spoken of Kara as a kid who works hard to get the most out of her ability.

*Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon...*



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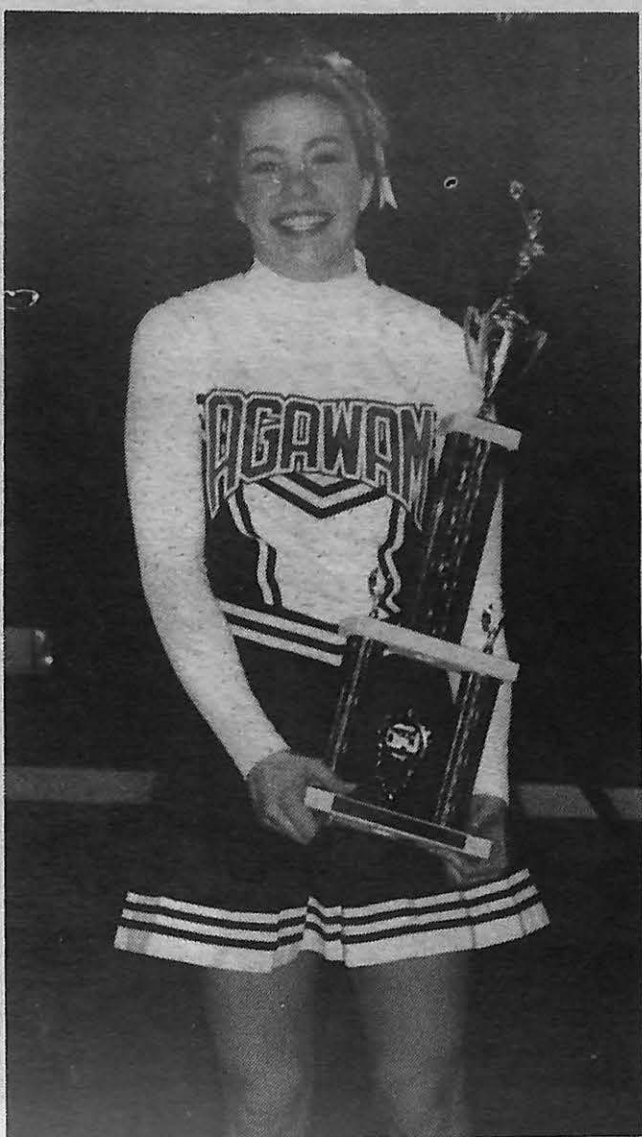
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**AHS VARSITY CHEERLEADER** Ashlee Lorraine was all smiles after taking first place in the jump-off at the Milford Cheerleading Competition on Saturday, February 20th.

## AHS Varsity & JV Cheerleaders Are Enjoying Competitions

The Agawam High School varsity and junior varsity cheerleaders have gotten their competition season off to a super start and it just keeps getting better.

On Saturday, February 20th, the varsity team competed at the Milford Cheerleading Competition. They placed third in the large school division. Sophomores Ashlee Lorraine and Rachel Lara were chosen by the Agawam team to represent them in the jump-off, while sophomore Lauren DeLuca was chosen to represent Agawam in the tumble-off.

Lauren and Rachel did an outstanding job, making it through two of the three elimination rounds. Ashlee, however, beat out over 40 other cheerleaders representing every team at the competition to take home first place in the jump-off.

On Sunday, February 21st, both the varsity and junior varsity teams competed at "Cheer Celebration" hosted by the Chicopee Comprehensive cheerleaders. The junior varsity cheerleaders, competing at their first competition of the year, came in a tie for first place, but were the second place trophy when the tie was broken by picking the team with the higher score in the difficulty category. Meanwhile, our varsity girls were making some noise of their own. Competing again in the large school division, the Agawam girls came home with second place.

Finally, on Sunday, Feb. 28th, both teams again competed at the Western Mass. Cheerleading Championship hosted by Chicopee High School. In a huge, 11-team division with teams from all over the state, the junior varsity team placed third. The varsity team, performing an incredible, nearly flawless routine, came home with FIRST place in the large school division.

On Sunday, both teams will again compete at the Pioneer Valley League Championships to be held at Greenfield High School. For the varsity team, this tournament is very important. They have to take first or second place here in order to advance to the state finals on March 14th in Lowell.

Both teams have been working tremendously to prepare for these competitions, and have represented their school and town with pride.

The junior varsity team would like to send get-well wishes out to HEATHER CRESCINTINI, who was unable to compete in their last competition due to illness. We miss you, Heather!!

We hope you can make it out to Greenfield High School on Sunday, March 7th to help cheer the Brownie girls on to victory!!!



**THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 7TH**, the Agawam High School varsity and junior varsity cheerleaders will compete at the Pioneer Valley League Championships at Greenfield High School. If the varsity team takes first or second place, it will advance to the state finals on March 14th in Lowell.



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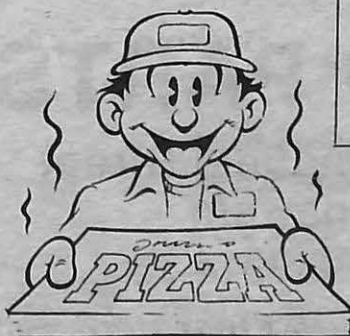
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*In Tri-Parish Bowling...*

## St. Louis Takes Round-Three Lead From Fordham

Well, what do you know???

On Monday, February 22nd, things got a bit shaken up in the Tri-Parish Bowling League after Fordham (11-5) — which was in the lead by a "comfortable" 2½-point margin just one short week earlier — found itself in second place by the end of the evening's athletic festivities, courtesy of a half-point deficit behind the league's new leader — St. Louis (11.5-4.5).

However, as we say time and time again, never take anything for granted when it comes to these Tri-Parish rollers. A *really* good week (and, conversely, a *really* bad week) can change a team's ranking mighty quick; to put it another way, Fordham could find itself back in first place before you know it, or its stalwart members could find themselves sliding down in the standings as round three rapidly progresses.

Meanwhile, Holy Cross and Boston College are presently tied for third at 10.5-5.5 apiece; Georgetown is just a tad behind those teams at 10-6; St. Anselm's currently stands at 8-8; St. Mary's is struggling with a 6.5-9.5 record; St. Michael's is at 5-11; Catholic University is in second-to-last place with a 4-12 record; and Notre Dame is still bringing up the rear at 3-13 (on the plus side, however, ND is no longer winless in this round).

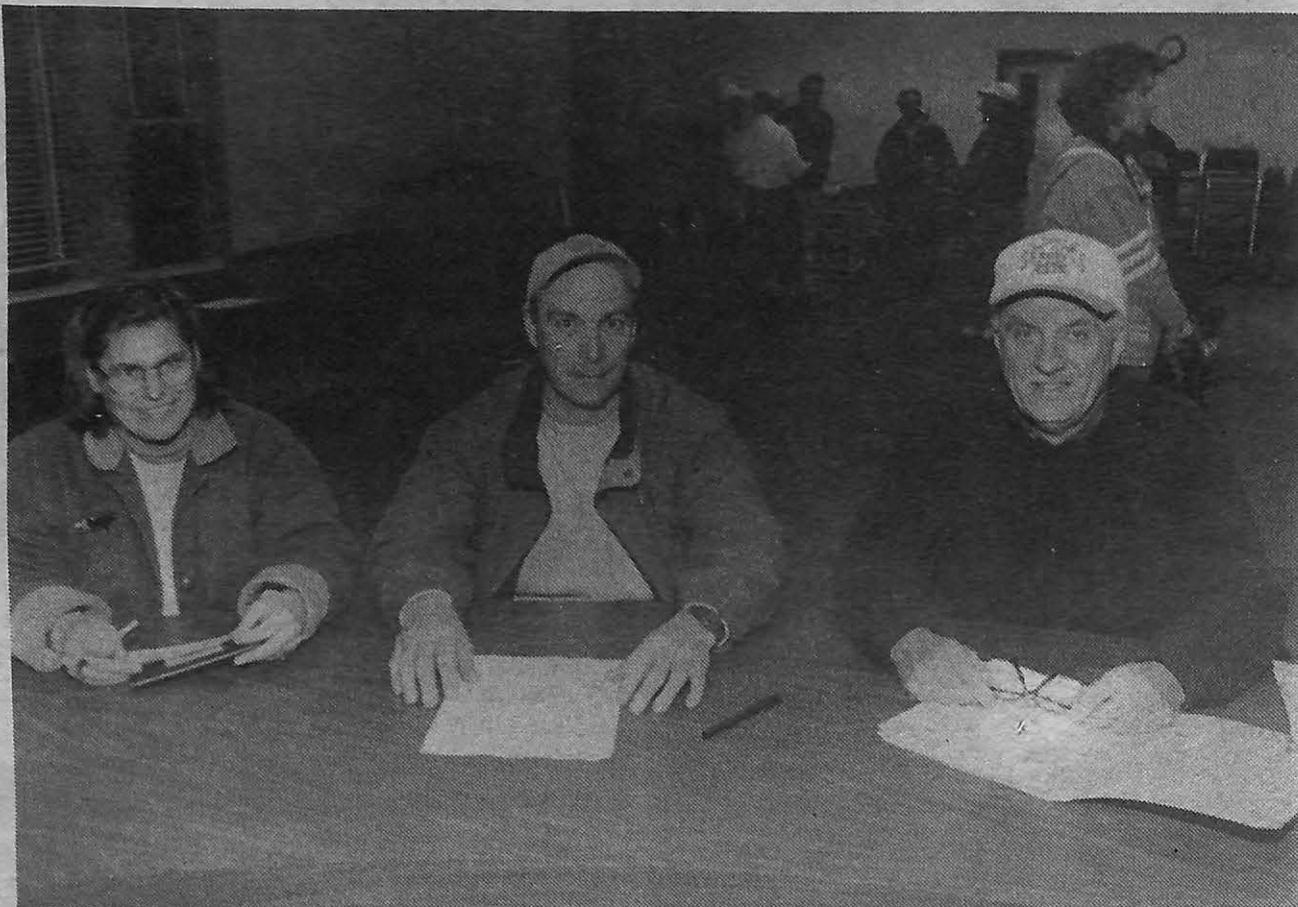
As for the matches that took place on the last Monday in February, St. Louis's first-place finish came at the expense of a 4-0 shellacking of St. Michael's; Holy Cross dominated St. Anselm's, 3-1; Georgetown upset Fordham, 3-1 (this is why Fordham lost the lead); Boston College truly trounced Catholic University, 4-0; and Notre Dame earned back some much-needed pride with a very good night of rolling — a 3-1 victory over St. Mary's.

RON "The Don" MENARD's 166 single string and 384 triple string earned him the number-one spot for the men on this particular evening, and he was followed by GLENN "Not Sam" ADAMS (138 single, 366 triple), "Jungle" JIM MCCORMACK (121, 314), BILL "Not Black And Blue" GRAY (113, 314), ROGER "Rabbit" JOSEPHSON (108, 313), "Luscious" LOU MULDER (111, 293), and "Sugar" RAY SCOTT (102, 289).

"Go With The" FLO ROCHFORD shined the brightest for the ladies of the lane on February 22nd, thanks to her 136 single string and 358 triple string. MOE "Say No More" LYNOSKY was also impressive with her good-for-second-place 117 single and 320 triple.

As for the other top-rolling Tri-Parish gals, they were JAN "Not The Man" FULLER (106, 298), "Tetsy" BETSY CANNON (103, 292), CORI "Not Lori" NAPOLITAN (112, 291), "Scary" TERRY GERPOVICZ (116, 275), and "Sweet" CAROLINE COELN (109, 275).

## Final Sign-Ups For Babe Ruth League...



THE AGAWAM BABE RUTH LEAGUE held its final sign-ups for the upcoming baseball season on Wednesday, February 24th, in the Community Room of the Agawam Public Library. The League features players who are 13 to 15 years of age. Conducting the sign-ups are (from left to right) Linda Montagna, Al Montagna, and John Debonville. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Water Safety Instructor Course Offered By Agawam Parks & Rec.

**Water Safety Instructor Course:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00-9:00 p.m. from March 9th through April 1st. To be held at the Agawam Junior High School pool.

Fee is \$175, which includes books and cards. Participants must be 17 years of age. Instructor is Gordon Sellick.

Registration is now being accepted at the Recreation Office, Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Parental permission is needed.

There is a class minimum of six and maximum of 16 participants.

For more information, call the Recreation Office at 821-0514.

## Golf Privilege Card Can Bring Spring One Step Closer

Tired of winter already? Got the post-holiday blahs? The good news is that the days ARE getting longer AND the Golf Privilege Card® is available for spring at only \$39.95.

You can look forward to over \$1,400 worth of golf-related discounts this spring, summer, and fall. This statewide card has 74 golf courses, 26 of which are in Western Mass. as well as 26 golf-related businesses, 11 of which are in Western Mass.

For details, call the American Lung Association of Western Mass. at (413) 737-3506 or 800-LUNG-USA (in Mass.). Proceeds from the Golf Privilege Card® underwrite asthma education for children and adults in Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, and Berkshire counties.

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KRISTEN SCHMAELZLE

## Kristen Schmaelzle On All-Conference Basketball Team

Kristen Schmaelzle, a former Agawam High School girls' basketball standout and now a member of the Westfield State College women's basketball team, has been selected as a member of the 1999 Mass. State all-conference.

Schmaelzle, a second-team all conference pick last season, also completed a stellar four-year collegiate career. She dominated the low post her senior season despite her lack of height (5'7½"). Schmaelzle finished with 1.161 career points to rank fifth on Westfield's all-time scoring chart, and set school records for field goal percentage in a season (.602 this year) and in a career (.511).

Schmaelzle was nearly unstoppable during the final months of the season. She averaged 18.9 points and 8.3 rebounds during the final 12 games while shooting 68 percent from the field and 84 percent from the foul line. She finished first in the conference in field goal shooting, third in scoring (14.9), and seventh in rebounding (7.0).

While at Agawam High, Schmaelzle's talents got her into the All-Western Mass. team and helped the Brownies to the Western Mass. title.

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## 1999 Division I CYO Champs...



PICTURED ABOVE ARE THE members of St. John's parish team, the 1999 Division I CYO basketball champs. Back row: Coach Mark Shea, Coach Tom Mathes, Vinny Moretti, Mike Locke, Matt Shea, David Bienia, Sean Burke, and Coach Peter Clark. Front row: Chris Malloy, Michael DeFilippi, Mario Maloni, Michael Dombrowski, and Joe Clark.

## St. John's Wins CYO Championship...



MEMBERS OF THE St. John's (Agawam Athletic Association) fifth and sixth grade boys' team won the Our Lady of Hope CYO basketball championship recently. The team was undefeated throughout the tournament. Back row: Assistant Coach Joey Rosinski, Andrew Moriarty, Ryan McLane, Eric deLiefde, Chris McKenney, and Coach Joe Rosinski. Front row: Jared Varelst, Brendan Ennis, Joe McDyer, Steve Rosinski, Jim Lewin, and Nick Pokora. (Missing from photo: Emil Nasti.)

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## Riverside Speedway Unveils 1999 Racing Schedule

*Exciting New Events Highlight  
51st Season Of Auto Racing*

Highlighted by two appearances of the NASCAR Featherlite Modified Series, Riverside Park Speedway will host a total of 40 auto racing events in 1999. Pro Stocks, Trucks, Sportsman, and Super Stocks will support the 200-lap Featherlite Modified Series season opener on March 27th and 28th, and the NASCAR Winston Racing Series will resume on Saturday, April 10th.

NASCAR "Tour Type" Modifieds, a Saturday night staple at the Agawam, Massachusetts quarter-mile oval since the 1950's, will compete for Riverside Park's \$10,000 Modified Track Championship in a total of 21 feature races between April 10th and the Winston Racing Series season finale on Saturday, September 11th. Modified drivers will have another chance to strut their stuff when Riverside Park hosts the Second Annual New England Championships for NASCAR Modifieds, SK Modifieds, Pro Stocks, Trucks, Sportsman, and Outlaw Late Models. The New England Championships will feature two days of action, with practice and qualifying for all divisions taking place on Saturday, October 30th, and feature races on Sunday, October 31st.

On Saturday, June 19th, fans will witness a New England first — the Inaugural Figure 8 Trailer Race, where Enduro style cars will race through Riverside Park's Figure 8 course, pulling behind them trailers of all shapes and sizes. The winner will be determined by the last trailer trailing intact. Director of Auto Racing David Deery, a nationally renowned motorsports thrills specialist, says, "This event is a must-see! With all those trailers out there, it's like a rolling demolition derby!"

On Saturday, July 10th, Riverside Park will present the Night of Destruction Thrills Spectacular. Featuring WWF Monster Trucks, a School Bus Figure 8 Race, Stock Car Football, the Green Mamba Jet Meltdown, and many other amazing acts, this event will excite fans of all ages.

For fans looking for more traditional racing action, NASCAR Touring events fill the schedule as well. The Featherlite Modified Series will open its season at Riverside Park in March, and return for a 200-lap race on Labor Day Weekend. Fans of NASCAR Grand National racing can enjoy 150 laps when the Busch North Series comes to Agawam on Saturday, May 1st. For the first time ever at Riverside Park Speedway, the Busch North Series event will feature infield pitting during the race.

\*\*\*

The International Super Modified Association (ISMA) will make its second appearance at Riverside Park, headlining the card for the Open Wheel Spectacular on Saturday, August 21st. The ground-pounding ISMA Super Modifieds will run for 75 laps, along with 25 laps for the Northeastern Midget Association (NEMA), 25 laps for the Pro 4 Modifieds, and 20 laps for the American Three Quarter Midget Association (ATQMRA).

Support divisions for the 1999 NASCAR Winston Racing Series events will again include the hard-charging Pro Stocks, the second season for the Super Trucks, the ultra-competitive Sportsman division, the always exciting Super Stocks, and the "crazy" Figure 8's. Riverside Park's Pro Stock Division will compete in 20 feature races, earning points toward the Winston Shorttrack Series by NASCAR. Three-time Pro Stock Champion Eddy Carroll III earned the Winston Shorttrack Series New England Regional Championship in 1998, the first year of that series.

Other schedule highlights include Budweiser returning as the sponsor of the Budweiser Triple Crown Series, where drivers in the Modified and Pro Stock divisions can earn points towards the Budweiser Triple Crown Championship and a share of the \$6,000 in bonus money for that series. Modifieds and Pro Stocks will tackle the first leg of the series with 100-lap features on May 29th, followed by 125 laps each on July 3rd, and the third leg of the series will feature 150-lap races for the Modifieds and Pro Stocks on August 28th.

Riverside Park Speedway's 1999 schedule will be complemented by the \$2,000,000 capital improvement project designed by parent company Premier Parks, Inc. to improve the traffic flow in and out of the Agawam, Massachusetts facility. Fans can learn more about traffic plans in and around Riverside Park at the upcoming Race A Rama show in early March.

For more information about the 1999 scheduled, call (413) 786-9300 or visit [www.riversideparkspeedway.com](http://www.riversideparkspeedway.com) on the world wide web.



## Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis  
Outdoor Writer

### STRIPERS COMING SOON

Striped bass action in the Thames River has been running hot and cold, but the catch is improving. Areas off the Norwich Town Dock and the hot water discharge from the power plant in Montville are producing right now.

By the middle to the end of the month, schoolies and a few larger bass may have moved upriver locally. The Enfield dam, a traditional hot spot for shad, will be seeing action on linesiders before too long. Get ready. The time is almost here.

### WHITE PERCH ARE IN

Reports from the area of Wethersfield Cove on the Connecticut River and Hamburg Cove further downstream indicate that the white perch are present in increasing numbers. These tasty panfish can certainly help to get the season off to an enjoyable start.

Grass shrimp are the favored live bait, while small lead head jigs and twister tail combinations are scoring well. The important thing to remember is that these fish are usually schooled up. When the action dies, start looking around to find the school again. By casting in a 360-degree circle of the boat and moving when necessary, you can stay on fish all day. Catch and release is impor-

tant here.

Take what you will eat and leave the rest for angling thrills on another day.

### EARLY TROUT STOCKING COMING SOON

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife will be busy getting the early stocking of trout out in valley waters. Locally, Congamond Lakes (North & Middle Ponds) will receive trout, along with Hampton Ponds, Five Mile Pond, and Lake Lorraine.

According to Division sources, this year's trout are some of the largest stocked. A high percentage of the fish stocked are in the 12-plus category. The emphasis on quality fish rather than sheer numbers, will give Bay State anglers some really nice fish.

Streams and rivers traditionally get their trout a little later in the season, after water levels stabilize from the spring run off.

Anglers in the Nutmeg State will have to wait until the third Saturday in April to try their luck on most waters. Congamond Lakes in Southwick and Suffield can be fished by anglers licensed in either state. Quite a few Connecticut fishermen take advantage of this, and get a head start on trout season.

Despite this week's snowfall, by the time that this edition hits the newsstands on Thursday, there will only be 16 more days until the official start of SPRING!

Don't get caught off guard! Get that tackle ready. Change to fresh line, sharpen the hooks on your lures, or replace them if they are rusty. Throw a new set of plugs in the outboard and change the lower unit oil if you didn't do it last fall.

One never knows when a fishing emergency could take place (an unusually nice day coupled with a hot fish report and an unexpected "mental health day"). So don't get caught sitting on your hands when such an "emergency" arises.

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*Our deadline is each  
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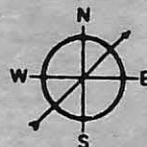
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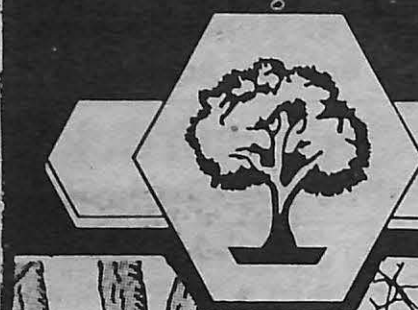
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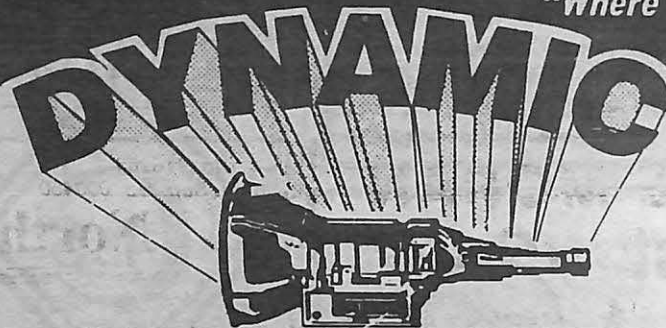
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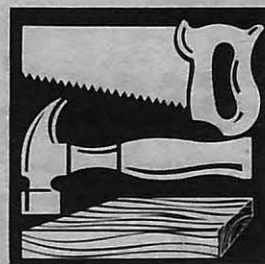


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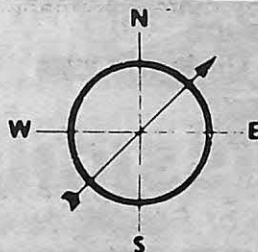
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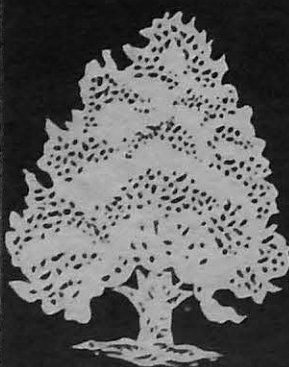
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